



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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**50th Session of UN Human Rights Commission
Opens**

'Arafat on 'Abuses' in Territories

*LD0102133 Bern Swiss Radio International in
English 1100 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Organization leader, Yasir 'Arafat, says he hopes to sign an agreement next week on a first Israeli troop withdrawal from the occupied territories. Mr. 'Arafat told the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva that he would hold further talks with the Israeli foreign minister, Shim'on Peres, in the Egyptian capital, Cairo. However, Israel has played down hopes of a final agreement on implementing Palestinian self-rule. The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhaq Rabin, said time was needed to overcome differences, while one official said an accord could be weeks away.

Mr. 'Arafat said on Monday [31 January] that a total agreement had been reached at talks in the Swiss resort of Davos, but that Mr. Peres asked for more time to study details of the text. In his speech to the Human Rights Commission he said the Palestinians were still suffering abuses in the occupied territories.

'Arafat: Withdrawal Delay Threatens Peace

*LD0102153994 Bern Swiss Radio International in
English 1500 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] The Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat has warned that further delays in the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories could threaten the whole Middle East peace process. Mr. 'Arafat told a news conference in Geneva that Israel had asked for six days to review a weekend agreement reached with the Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in the Swiss resort of Davos. He was speaking shortly after giving a speech to the UN Human Rights Commission, in which he said Palestinians still faced abuses in the occupied territories. The PLO leader said he still hoped the agreement on implementing Palestinian self-rule could be signed next week when he meets Mr. Peres in the Egyptian capital, Cairo. [passage omitted]

Bhutto Urges World Action on Kashmir

*BK0102152194 Islamabad PTV Television Network in
English 1400 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Text] Describing the continued gross human rights violations against innocent and unarmed Kashmiris as reminiscent of the darkest days of the holocaust and the situation in Bosnia as grave and appalling, Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto urged the comity of nations to uphold the universal declaration of human rights which is often extensively violated with impunity. She was addressing the 50th session of the commission on human rights in Geneva today.

[Begin Bhutto recording] Two-thirds of Kashmir has remained under Indian occupation for the past 45 years. India first accepted but then refused to implement the

UN Security Council resolution calling for a plebiscite under UN auspices. Over 40,000—40,000—Kashmiri men, women, and children have died. The martyrs' graves in Srinagar are flowing over as are the tears of the Kashmiri mothers, wives, and daughters. Despite its repression, India has failed to impose its will on the indomitable people of Jammu and Kashmir. The intensity of the resistance has grown. The Kashmiri political leadership representing over 30 parties and groups has unanimously declared that it will not contemplate any solution which implies the continuation of Indian rule. Their demand is simple—Azadi, freedom. People cannot be suppressed indefinitely, tyranny cannot long endure. That is the lesson of history. The situation in Kashmir is as intolerable as is the world silent.

It is time for the world community to prevail upon India to remove the additional forces it has put into Kashmir to conduct its campaign of repression. It is time for the world community to demand that India leaves its draconian emergency laws which allow its Army to commit atrocities in Kashmir without being answerable to anyone.

The settlement of the Kashmir dispute based on the wishes of its people is the key to peace and progress in South Asia, South Asia which is home to one-fifth of humanity. We cannot celebrate the triumph of the universal declaration on rights. These rights are being violated extensively often with impunity without compunction, or conscience or remorse in almost every part of the world. [end recording]

About Bosnia, the prime minister urged the world community to help preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia. The consequences of ethnic cleansing must be reversed, she stressed.

India Replies to Bhutto Charges

*BK0202102394 Delhi All India Radio Network in
English 0830 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Text] The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, has dismissed Pakistan's accusations of widespread human rights violations in India. Exercising India's right to reply to the Pakistan prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto's, statement on Kashmir, Dr. Abdullah reminded Islamabad of the plight of the Ahmediyas, the Shi'ites and other minority communities in Pakistan. Addressing the opening session of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva, he observed that India always stood by its pledge and commitment of giving equal rights to all citizens. Dr. Abdullah asserted that Kashmir was and will remain a part of India.

In a BBC interview later, he accused Pakistan of fomenting insurgency in Kashmir. He said India wants peace, but Pakistan is not responding to the offer.

Arab, Israeli Delegates Continue Washington Talks

'Arafat Said To Favor Confederation

TA0102160594 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will meet U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in a few hours to update him on the progress made in the Davos talks. Meanwhile, the bilateral talks between the Israeli, Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian delegations continue in Washington. Our correspondent Natan Gutman reports from Washington:

[Begin recording] [Gutman] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres arrived at his Washington hotel a short time ago. From what he told us, it appears that Mr. Peres is slightly less optimistic than Yasir 'Arafat concerning the chances of signing an agreement next week. I asked Shim'on Peres whether he shares 'Arafat's assessment that an agreement can be signed within a week:

[Peres] I am participating in the negotiations, and that is enough for me. I hope we will reach an agreement, but I do not want to commit myself to a precise day or week.

[Gutman] What will take place in Cairo next week?

[Peres] We have to finalize several more issues, some of which relate to the contents of the agreement, others to the formulation of the issues on which agreement has been reached.

[Gutman] Upon his arrival in Washington, Foreign Minister Peres confirmed that Yasir 'Arafat told him in Davos that the Palestinians are not interested in an independent Palestinian state at the present time. 'Arafat told Peres at the opening of their meeting: You are afraid we want to establish a Palestinian state right now, but in fact we have decided to proceed toward a confederation rather than a Palestinian state. This is what 'Arafat told Peres at the opening of their meeting in Davos.

Foreign Minister Peres will meet Secretary of State Christopher in about three hours, and tomorrow he will meet Vice President Gore. The talks between the Israeli and Syrian delegations will open in about half an hour—a breakthrough on this track is not expected to take place today. [end recording]

Reasons for Lack of Progress Reported

NC0202093094 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] The Arab-Israeli talks are continuing in Washington in secret. Another meeting is expected between Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat next week. The situation can be summed up as follows: There is no progress on the bilateral tracks and the talks on the Palestinian-Israeli track are delayed. Our correspondent in Washington Salim Salim reported to the Voice of Lebanon bureau in Washington that the Israeli delegation insists on a peace agreement with

Lebanon before discussing Security Council Resolution 425. Also, the Israeli delegation insists on secret talks with Syria before lifting the veto on the Golan. The report did not rule out direct U.S. intercession in the talks this week.

[Begin Salim recording] There is nothing new regarding the Arab-Israeli talks being held at the heads-of-delegation level, which began their second week without results worth mentioning. Why did the talks fail to make progress? We put the question to the delegations participating in the talks and to the U.S. State Department. It seems clear that failure to make progress on the Lebanese and Syrian tracks is due to the following reasons: On the Lebanese track, Israel will not pledge to implement Resolution 425 before Lebanon declares its readiness to accept a bilateral peace treaty. As for the failure on the Syrian track, Israel will not declare its readiness to withdraw from the Golan until after Damascus agrees to negotiate with Israel secretly, as the Israelis and Palestinians did in Oslo recently. Damascus rejects this.

The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Itamar Rabinovich, Israeli ambassador and head of the negotiating delegation with Syria, asked U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to convince Syria to agree to secret talks. The U.S. stance was cautious and the U.S. side did not show any enthusiasm for this formula. This caused the talks at the heads-of-delegation level to bog down. Direct U.S. intercession beginning in the middle of this week cannot be ruled out if chronic and traditional obstacles are not resolved among the Lebanese, Syrian, and Israeli delegations. [end recording]

Sha'th: No Date for Further PLO-Israeli Talks

NC0202112694 Paris AFP in English 1052 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, Feb 2 (AFP)—Israeli and PLO negotiators have not yet set a date for further talks on Palestinian autonomy, PLO chief negotiator Nabil Sha'th said here Wednesday [2 February].

Sha'th denied an earlier Israeli television report that talks would resume in Cairo Wednesday.

The two sides are due to meet again to finalise an accord on launching Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, following the meeting in Davos, Switzerland, last weekend between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Palestinians, Israelis Consult on Meeting Date

NC0102193494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)—An official at the Palestinian Information Office in Cairo has said that the Palestinians have held contacts with the Israelis to fix a date and venue [as received] for the meeting that the two sides had agreed during the Davos talks to hold in Cairo.

This meeting is supposed to prepare the way for the upcoming talks in Cairo between Yasir 'Arafat and Shim'on Peres.

The official said the Palestinians are still waiting for the Israeli response.

Nabil Sha'th said on his arrival in Cairo from Davos yesterday that a meeting will be held in Cairo in the next two days to prepare for the 'Arafat-Peres talks scheduled for Sunday.

Beilin To Meet Saudi, Tunisian Counterparts

TA0202070894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin will meet next week with his Saudi Arabian and Tunisian counterparts. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the meeting will take place when the heads of the delegations to the multilateral talks convene in Canada. At the convention, the delegates will discuss priorities in the implementation of joint projects in the Middle East, including communications networks and joint roads. The discussion of these issues will be held at Israel's initiative.

Qatari Foreign Minister Meets Israeli Counterpart

NC3101180094 Beirut AL-ANWAR in Arabic 26 Jan 94 p 1

[Text] Gulf sources have disclosed that a meeting was held in London last Sunday [23 January] between Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Minister of Energy Shahal [title as received]. They discussed ways to supply Israel with gas, an issue which AL-ANWAR has mentioned before.

The sources said the talks took place without the knowledge or consent of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, whose territory the gas pipes must pass through to reach Israel.

Asked by AL-ANWAR of his view on these talks, a Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] official said he had not heard about these contacts and meetings before. Any developments between Qatar and Israel, he added, are absolutely not in accord with GCC policy.

Ties With Israel Linked to Talks' Progress

PM2801154094 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 28 Jan 94 pp 1, 4

[Rafiq Khalil al-Ma'tuf report: "Qatar Officially Confirms Plan To Supply Israel With Gas"]

[Text] Washington—Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Al Than announced yesterday that the development of Qatari-Israeli relations is linked with the scale of progress in the negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. He denied that Qatar's policy toward Israel is aimed against any of its neighbors. However, he

said that this policy is independent and that there are "differences between us and the other Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states in this connection, but they are not major differences." The Qatari minister confirmed that he met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last Sunday. He also confirmed that Qatar is making contacts with Israel regarding a natural gas deal, but it will not begin implementation before progress is achieved in the peace process with Syria and Lebanon. He indicated that Qatar may independently decide to abolish the second- and third-degree boycott of Israel if progress occurs in the negotiations. However, he associated the abolition of the main boycott with a decision from the Arab League.

In a news conference he held yesterday after his talks with U.S. officials, especially with Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Shaykh Hamad said that Qatar has special interests in developing the peace process and making it a success. He expressed his hope that progress would be made on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks in 1994. He said: "We hope that the peace process will lead to the establishment of a new order and a new Middle East free from bloodshed...."

He expressed satisfaction with the fact that the Palestinians and Israelis have sat together to resolve their differences directly and with support from the United States and Russia. He said that at the end of April Qatar will host a round of the multilateral negotiations and will receive Israeli diplomats like other diplomats. "And we feel that our people will welcome that, because the aim is peace and an end to bloodshed."

Asked whether he had managed to conclude a gas deal with the Israelis in London, he said: "True, a meeting was held in London, but so far we have not concluded a gas deal...." He pointed out that the Israelis know well "Qatar's position and its terms, as we clearly said that we want progress to be made in the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks..." He added, "We are thinking about a deal, but nothing has been achieved."

Asked whether his country "is playing with fire" with its neighbors in terms of its policy with Israel, the Qatari minister said that "it is exciting sometimes to play with fire. But this should be done safely. However, we do not believe that our relations with Israel are aimed against any of our neighbors. Qatar has good relations with Iraq and Iran and also with the other GCC states. Of course we have some problems with our neighbors, but it does not mean that we are doing things deliberately...."

Asked whether Qatar consulted or coordinated with its GCC neighbors over its new policy toward Israel, he said: "It is our policy and I can only speak about Qatar...." He said that "we have differences with the GCC states, but they are not major differences, and as I said, it is our policy."

Shaykh Hamad disclosed that he had discussed with Christopher the issue of Qatar's relations with Iran and Iraq and that he had told the U.S. secretary that "Iran is one of Qatar's neighbors. We clearly told the secretary of

state that we wish to establish good relations with Iran...so that the opposite will emerge." [sentence as published] He said that Secretary Christopher understood the Qatari position because Qatar and Iran are "close neighbors."

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Remarks on Confederation Draw Reaction

Al-Husayni Clarifies 'Arafat's Position

TA0202061894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Fayzal al-Husayni, one of the leaders of the Palestinians in the territories, said that when Yasir 'Arafat told Shim'on Peres that he was not talking about a Palestinian state but rather about a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, 'Arafat was referring to a confederation between two states. This is the best practical solution for us, al-Husayni explained, because we want a Palestinian state.

Al-Husayni told Qol Yisra'el that a confederation agreement with Jordan would be possible only after the Palestinians and the Jordanians approved it in a national referendum.

PFLP's Habash, PFLP-GC Respond

JN0202133394 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, who is on a visit to Washington, has expressed hope that a final agreement will be reached with the Palestinians in the coming week. Peres disclosed that Yasir 'Arafat informed him in Davos that the PLO leadership does not work toward establishing a Palestinian state, but seeks to set up a confederation with Jordan. Peres added that 'Arafat told him that Fatah and other Palestinian organizations, such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC], led by Ahmad Jibril, support confederation.

George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], said that this stand reiterates that the Gaza-Jericho accord constitutes, to the PLO leadership, the ceiling of the final solution to the Palestine question.

The PFLP-GC categorically denied that it has informed 'Arafat of its support for confederation. Our correspondent Sana' al-Imam reports from Damascus:

[Begin al-Imam recording] The PFLP-GC has denied Peres' statement in which he cited PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat [on PFLP-GC's support for confederation]. A PFLP-GC official spokesman said: What 'Arafat is saying is absolutely baseless. He added that 'Arafat has no right to speak on behalf of the PFLP-GC or any Palestinian citizen after all active factions and forces in

the Palestinian arena have deprived him of his legitimacy. The PFLP-GC spokesman added that the organizational and political relationship between the front and 'Arafat has been severed since 1982 and that the PFLP-GC's position is still based on the strategy of armed struggle to liberate the Palestinian territory and restore the national and historical rights.

Commenting on the issue of confederation and 'Arafat's relinquishment of establishing an independent state, PFLP Secretary General George Habash noted that this reiterates that the Gaza-Jericho accord constitutes, to 'Arafat and his team, the ceiling of the Palestinian solution. He added that the Palestinian people will not agree on setting up a confederation or federation with Jordan or any other Arab state, noting that 'Arafat's remarks mean transferring administrative rule to Jordan and aim at reassuring Israel. [end recording]

'Abd-al-Shafi Rejects Invitation To Join DFLP

TA0102142794 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 29 Jan 94 pp 1, 19

[By Rashid Hilal]

[Excerpt] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi has declined an invitation by Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, to join the Palestinian opposition to the peace process between Israel and the PLO.

In an exclusive statement to AL-QUDS, 'Abd-al-Shafi said that in principle he wants to maintain his independent position, adding: I wish to pursue my national position through this independence.

Five days ago, Hawatimah extended an invitation, through the news media, to Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi to join the Palestinian opposition. [passage omitted]

Fatah Official Rejects Joint Border Patrols

JN0202113094 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 2 Feb 94 pp 20, 16

[By Riyad Mansur]

[Excerpt] A Fatah military official has strongly rejected proposals presented by the Palestinian leadership to Israel in Davos on joint Palestinian-Israeli patrols on the borders with Jordan and Egypt. He described these proposals as a way to beautify the Oslo accord, noting that this means giving sovereignty to Israel.

In response to a question by SAWT AL-SHA'B, Staff Major General Muhammad Jihad, who is also a member of the Fatah Central Committee, called on all Fatah military cadres to reject these proposals and warned against the consequences of attempting to coordinate with the Israeli Army on these patrols. [passage omitted]

Asked about instructions from the Palestinian leadership to Fatah cadres inside the occupied Arab territories to surrender their weapons to the Israeli Army and stop

military operations, Jihad said: I asked President Yasir 'Arafat about this and he categorically denied issuing such instructions. Jihad reaffirmed that the Fatah Central Committee did not issue any such instructions.

Maj. Gen. Jihad said that the instructions issued to members of the Fatah Movement inside the occupied territories are the same instructions issued before the signing of the Oslo agreement. He noted that these instructions stipulate that we continue our tasks, especially regarding our struggle against the Israeli occupation. He said: The intifadah activities and military operations inside the occupied territories are evidence that the Oslo accord did not change anything.

PLO Survives 'Financial Crisis,' Gets \$29 Million
JN0202082294 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
2 Feb 94 p 1

[Text] Amman—SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the PLO has survived the financial crisis that has plagued it over the past three years as a result of the position it took on the second Gulf war.

The PLO has received \$29 million over the past few days. The following is a breakdown of the amounts received:

Greece provided \$15 million, Turkey \$2 million, Malaysia \$5 million, Indonesia \$3 million, Algeria \$2 million, not to mention the 8 million Saudi riyals transferred by the Saudi Popular Committee.

Gulf PLO Sources: Crisis Continues

NC0202124894 Paris AFP in English 1159 GMT
2 Feb 94

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Feb 2 (AFP)—A financial crisis caused by suspension of Gulf aid is still rocking the Palestine Liberation Organisation despite official statements the problem is over, PLO sources in the Gulf said on Wednesday [2 February].

The sources were reacting to comments by Muhammad Jihad, a central committee member of PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction, that the organization had overcome the crisis after receiving 29 million dollars in fresh aid from Arab and other countries.

"What Muhammad Jihad said is untrue," said an Abu Dhabi-based PLO official, who requested anonymity. "The crisis is continuing. We have not received our salaries for more than eight months."

Several employees at the PLO missions in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other oil-rich Gulf states, contacted by AFP, confirmed they had not received their salaries since mid-1993.

They said a circular sent by the PLO's foreign minister, Farouq Qadhami, four months ago asking them to resign if they want was still in force.

The PLO has been facing increasing financial problems since the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states halted aid to protest its sympathy with Iraq during its seven-month occupation of Kuwait nearly three years ago.

GCC states—Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the UAE—were the main bankrollers of the PLO before the Iraqi invasion, providing it with more than two billion dollars in official aid. Billions of dollars have also been extended through private donations from Gulf shaykhs and businessmen and a five-percent tax on Palestinians living in the region.

Repeated attempts by the PLO to mend fences with the GCC were crowned with a reconciliation meeting between 'Arafat and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh last week. Kuwait, however, has said it will not deal with 'Arafat again.

The PLO's financial woes coincided with its peace accord with Israel, which could also be a boon in financial terms. The September 13 deal has already won the PLO pledges for two billion dollars in aid in the autonomous areas.

In an interview with Wednesday's UAE daily AL-KHALIJ, Jihad had said the PLO had received 15 million dollars from Greece, five million from Malaysia, three million from Indonesia, two million from Turkey, two million from Algeria and around two million from Saudi Arabia.

"The PLO has overcome its financial crisis," he said. "We have disbursed two-month salaries for all PLO staff."

Islamic Jihad Pays Salaries of Martyrs, Families
NC0202133994 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 31 Jan 94
p 15

[Text] The Islamic Jihad in Palestine has undertaken to pay much of the money due to the families of the Palestinian martyrs and wounded fighters. The movement took over this duty some time after Yasir 'Arafat stopped paying the salaries, aid, and financial donations he used to give to the wounded Palestinians and families of the Palestinian resistance martyrs in Lebanon.

According to informed sources, the Jihad movement receives funding from Iran and gives it to these Palestinian families and wounded resistance fighters every month. The movement hands over this funding to some Palestinian officers inside the camps who have misgivings about 'Arafat's policies, despite their still being within the Fatah framework.

The same sources say that the necessary monthly funding to cover the expenses of the wounded and the families of the Palestinian martyrs in Lebanon amounts to \$3 million a month. It is not known whether the Jihad movement covers this whole amount. Some sources point out that the movement pays, through some Fatah officers who have differences with 'Arafat, the monthly

salaries of these families and the wounded men who fell, after 'Arafat cut salaries and aid to them.

The sources conclude by pointing to extensive Iranian activity in the camps in Lebanon, especially in the camps in south Lebanon. This activity centers on providing medical aid in particular.

PLO Appoints New Envoy to Washington

*TA0102142194 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
29 Jan 94 p 1*

[By Da'ud Kuttab]

[Tex] Jerusalem—AL-QUDS has learned from Palestinian sources in Tunis that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has signed a letter of appointment designating Hasan 'Abd-al-Rahman as the PLO's envoy in Washington.

According to the appointment, 'Abd-al-Rahman will attend to diplomatic affairs with the U.S. State Department and foreign embassies, while Anis al-Barghuthi will continue working with the Palestinian community and organizations in the United States.

'Arafat, Swiss President Discuss Peace Process

*LD0102181194 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] Brother President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] conferred last night with Otto Stich, president of the Swiss Confederation. The brother president reviewed

with Mr. Stich the latest developments in the Middle East region as well as development in the Palestinian problem, particularly those dealing with the peace process in the Middle East and the need to implement the Declaration of Principles in addition to bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

Two New Palestinian Papers To Be Launched

*TA0102140894 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel
1 Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 94*

[Text] Palestinian sources in Amman have stated that two newspapers will be launched shortly in the West Bank. The first one, to be published in English, will be called JERUSALEM TIMES. It will be edited by Hanna Sinyurah, former editor of AL-FAJR, and will be partially financed by 'Asif Safiyah, the PLO's ambassador in London. The second newspaper will be called FAJR AL-SHA'B [The People's Dawn] and will replace the newspapers AL-FAJR and AL-SHA'B. Some Saudi businessmen have expressed their desire to finance this paper.

Hamas Suspected of Killing Five Palestinians

*TA0202071094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500
GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Text] In the Gaza Strip, five Palestinians suspected of cooperating with Israel have been killed. Three of the victims were residents of Gaza. A Qol Yisra'el reporter says it appears that Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] carried out the attack.

Algeria

FIS Official Comments on Assessing President's Policies

PM0102112694 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 1 Feb 94 pp 1, 4

[Jamal Khashoggi report: "Rabih Kebir Tells AL-HAYAH: Salvation Front's Position on Zeroual Appointment Has Not Been Defined Yet"]

[Text] Jeddah—The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) in Algeria stressed yesterday that "it has not yet taken a specific position on the appointment of Defense Minister Liamine Zeroual as president of the country." Rabeh Kebir, chairman of the FIS Executive Committee abroad, said in a statement to AL-HAYAH: "We cannot say whether what has happened (Zeroual's appointment) is positive or negative. We are not interested in individuals but in the policy to be pursued by Zeroual. We will be able to judge when the features of this policy become clear."

He pointed out that the statement he issued the day before yesterday, in which he attacked the Algerian authorities, was not aimed against the new president, Zeroual. But it "expresses our fixed position rejecting all attempts by putschists to prolong the life of their regime, which has become bankrupt at all levels. We in the FIS are waiting until Zeroual's policy becomes clear so that we can pass judgment." However, he reiterated the FIS' position of refusing to recognize the regime's legitimacy. He said: "We do not forget that the present regime, like the previous one, is a military regime that lacks constitutional and popular legitimacy."

Asked whether he had found in Zeroual's speech any positive indications of a desire for reconciliation, he said: "Zeroual's speech—as we heard it—included both the reconciliation aspect and the terrorist aspect, so I reiterate that his policy is still unclear."

Kebir does not expect recent changes to affect the military activities of elements of the armed Islamic movement supporting FIS, which are now called the Islamic Salvation Army. "until after the new president's policy becomes clear." On the effect of recent contacts between the Algerian authorities and the detained FIS leaders on the other FIS leaders, especially those present abroad, he said: "We stressed in the past that the legitimate and historic FIS leadership is represented in Shayk Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, and it pleases us to see that contacts are conducted with them to extricate the country from the crisis. But these contacts should be based on good foundations that restore the Algerian people's dignity and their right to live under the Islamic state they have chosen." He said that detained FIS leaders who have been contacted stressed to representatives of the authorities that "we are part of the leadership but not all the leadership. We must be allowed to meet with the other brothers concerned. Then we will be able to take the right legitimate position." He pointed out

that the contacts made were merely discussions, not a dialogue as the detained leaders were reported to have said.

In a statement issued last Sunday Kebir condemned in FIS' name the assassination of Shayk Mohamed Bouslimani, describing it as "part of a campaign designed to drive a wedge between Islamists." Official Algerian reports said yesterday that the "Armed Islamic Group" (Ja'far al-Afghani's group) had claimed responsibility for the assassination of Bouslimani, who is close to Hamas (Islamic Society Movement). And that the assassination order was issued by al-Afghani himself. However, Shayk Rabeh Kebir told AL-HAYAH: "Our information indicates that it was the authorities' organs which abducted Shayk Bouslimani and committed the crime. The so-called Free Algerian Youth Organization claimed responsibility for the operation. This organization is known to be a branch of the intelligence service."

Zeroual Sends Message to Party of Slain Secretary

LD0102232294 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Liamine Zeroual, head of state and minister of national defense, today sent a message of condolences to the Rally for Culture and Democracy (RCD) following the assassination of RCD National Secretary (Ahmed Ramdane Tigriri).

In his message, Liamine Zeroual stressed that he received with great sorrow the news of (Ahmed Ramdane)'s assassination.

Liamine Zeroual reaffirmed his determination to do his utmost to stop the vicious circle of violence in our country.

Group Departs for Meeting With IMF; New Accords Sought

LD0202093094 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] A delegation of Algerian financial experts will be going to Washington in the near future to continue and complete negotiations with the IMF with a view to arriving at an agreement on a cut in the servicing of debts in return for a program for structural reforms to the national economy. In principle, this new round of talks, recently described by Economy Minister Mr. Mourad Benachene as an occasion for real negotiations, is expected to conclude the two consultative rounds started since the inauguration of Mr. Radha Malek's government last September on a rigorous financial policy that Algeria should adopt if it wanted to secure support from the international financial community.

The signing this month of a letter of intent, i.e. a document in which the authorities present the program of economic reforms for the coming years, is a matter on which Algeria is pinning a great deal of hope as the sole means of cutting the payment of its debts so as to start

economic revival. The economy minister did state to THE WASHINGTON POST three days ago that there was no other way if we wanted to avoid a rise in inflation and a total collapse of the economic system.

This type of agreement with the IMF imposes, in return for the rescheduling of debts, a series of conditions which have adverse effects at the social level. But Algeria hopes to secure a sort of special treatment, taking into consideration the political circumstances the country is going through. In this respect, Benachour expressed a great confidence as he stated in Algiers that the file of negotiations was under control, and the government was trying to persuade the IMF to take into account the exceptional situation in Algeria. He had also already stated at the beginning of the year: we will be negotiating firmly with the IMF to arrive at a harmonious financing program without overlooking social repercussions.

Union To Seek Higher Wages; Secretary Comments

LD0102224394 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] At a meeting between the General Union of Algerian Workers [UGTA] and the national federations of all the sectors, UGTA Secretary General Abdelhak Benhamouda revealed the objectives of the UGTA during the transitional phase and stressed that the UGTA's demands at the forthcoming negotiations with the government would be for higher wages. (Djamel Nassar) reports:

[Begin recording] [Nassar] The UGTA is meeting the national federations of all the sectors. The meeting is taking place to assess, coordinate, and make preparations for the congresses of some federations. This meeting, the first of its kind, has come late, according to the UGTA secretary general, in view of the UGTA's many national activities, particularly its participation in talks with the government, contributions to the political dialogue, and participation in the national council [wifaq] conference. The secretary general briefed the trade union cadres on the results of the conference; he also talked about the role of the workers in the transitional phase.

[Benhamouda] Our role as the General Union of Algerian Workers is naturally to contribute to strengthening and supporting the state. However, what is important to us is rebuilding the economy; to rebuild it as a strong economy so that we can protect our workers.

[Nassar] The UGTA's negotiations with the government received the lion's share of time in discussions. Abdelhak Benhamouda talked about another new point that would be raised at the forthcoming negotiations with the government. Again, the point concerns a salary increase.

[Benhamouda] We will be starting additional negotiations when we submit this file to the head of government. The negotiations will address the difference [between the UGTA demand and the government's offer], because the

treasury minister said only 8 billion [currency not specified] while we had agreed on 32 billion. Therefore, we will demand a salary increase in the next phase. [end recording]

Leader Notes Other Issues

LD0102225094 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Excerpts] Mr. Abdelhak Benhamouda, secretary general of the General Union of Algerian Workers [UGTA], said today that the UGTA has agreed to the resumption of negotiations with international financial institutions. He added that he is also prepared to accept a devaluation of the dinar provided that practical measures are taken to help improve productivity and reduce the unemployment and inflation rates. During this meeting, Mr. Benhamouda also confirmed that 200,000 workers could be made redundant in the next two years. He added that a significant number of jobs would be made available in 1993, particularly in the sectors of public works, construction, irrigation, textiles, and food industries. This, he said, will reduce unemployment by a considerable extent.

Regarding the efficiency of the unemployment fund, Mr. Benhamouda indicated that this resides in the possibility for redundant workers to receive social benefits, such as social and health security during the legal period, in addition to the unemployment benefit which could range between 2,000 and 3,000 dinars. This, he added, will reduce the deficit which the social security fund and the pension fund are complaining about.

The UGTA secretary general also talked about the positive aspects of early retirement which would alleviate the burden caused by a surplus of workforce, and other burdens which are weighing down the enterprises. He added that the success of the early retirement scheme depends on the existence of a firm economic and investment policy which would provide the conditions for growth.

Mamoud Ramdani interviewed Abdelhak Benhamouda and asked him about the agreement recently signed with the government.

[Begin Benhamouda recording] We regarded the agreement signed on 17 January as a beginning for organizing future negotiation. For example, in the context of the 17 January agreement we said that we will not open the wages file. We agreed to the minimum because there must be stages and a gradual program. If we do not define a secure minimum national level for wages, we will not be able to open the wages file. [passage omitted]

We have agreed on the issue of an unemployment fund but we have not yet finalized it. The same applies to an early retirement fund. We have also talked about a national fund for social services. We have agreed on all these issues but we have not agreed on the details. [end recording]

Security Services Confirm Killing of French Reporter

LD0102153194 *Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic*
1500 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Once again, two more foreign reporters, working for ABC, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, were the victims of an attack in the Casbah quarter of Algiers. A statement by the security services has disclosed that the two reporters were taken to the hospital where one of them, a French national, died of his wounds. The same source added that the other reporter, an Australian national, is in a critical condition.

Ministry Condemns Event

LD0102232394 *Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic*
2200 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Excerpts] In a statement issued today, the Ministry of Communications strongly condemned the cowardly assassination that has recently grieved the entire community of journalists overseas and considers it as a practice alien to Algeria's traditions. [passage omitted]:

The statement made clear that the two reporters went to the Casbah quarter without taking into consideration the instructions of the authorities. It added that a police patrol had come across them yesterday at Bab El Oued and advised them not to go to some areas without taking the necessary precautions.

The two reporters who came to Algeria to cover the national conference wanted to complete their work by doing some field investigations. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Mubarak, Delegation Return From Visit to Turkey

NC0102195194 *Cairo MENA in Arabic* 1905 GMT
1 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him returned safely to Cairo this evening, following a one-day visit to Turkey at the invitation of Turkish President Suleyman Demirel.

During the visit, President Mubarak held a series of intensive talks and important political meetings with the Turkish president, Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, and a number of political and party figures. The purpose of the talks was to bolster ties of cooperation in the political, economic, trade, cultural, and media fields.

Visit, Peace Efforts Praised

NC0202090494 *Cairo MENA in Arabic* 0610 GMT
2 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 2 Feb (MENA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has affirmed that President Husni Mubarak's visit to Turkey falls within the framework of

realizing the great pan-Arab and Egyptian goals and also within the framework of Mubarak's constant desire to establish deep and binding relations of cooperation and friendship with all countries of the world.

The newspaper said in an editorial in today's issue that Egypt has relations of friendship and cooperation with the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea and the Arab, Islamic, and European countries equally.

The newspaper adds: If we are aspiring to modern, civilized ties among the countries of the Mediterranean Sea basin that will restore to this region its significance and historical value to the whole world, it is only natural for Egypt to want to form a new kind of relations of cooperation with Turkey—relations that befit Egypt's position and history with Turkey since the latter is undeniably an Islamic country linked to Europe by special ties.

The newspaper stressed Egypt's efforts to establish peace in the Middle East. It also stressed Egypt's efforts to forge relations of cooperation and friendship with the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea and normal and strong relations with the big powers in the northern half of the hemisphere.

The newspaper believes Egypt's present and future interests are the ultimate objective of the national leadership's every effort, regardless of the interconnected fronts and national working policies. Mubarak's visit to Turkey is a short one, but a visit that serves the long-term and grand objectives.

Police Kill 7 'Suspected Islamic Militants' in Raid

NC0202101894 *Paris AFP in English* 0914 GMT
2 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, Feb 2 (AFP)—Police shot dead seven suspected Islamic militants in a gunbattle in a poor neighbourhood here overnight, the interior ministry said Wednesday.

It was one of the biggest single death tolls in the two-year war between fundamentalists and the security forces.

The militants opened fire as police moved in to arrest them late Tuesday at an apartment which had been under surveillance in the al-Zawiyah al-Hamra' district, the ministry said.

Police fired back, killing seven of them, and discovered a large amount of arms, explosives and remote control devices in the apartment. None of the policemen was hurt.

The men were regarded as "amongst the most dangerous terrorists" and belonged to militant groups based in the southern province of Asyut, a fundamentalist hotbed, the ministry said.

Four of them, named as Yasir 'Abd-al-Hakim, Yasir Zaki, 'Abd-al- Nabi Tayih and Tariq al-Qurashi, were suspected of setting up these gangs.

Interior Minister General Hasan al-Alfi told Wednesday's Al-Ahram newspaper that militants were "preparing attacks in different regions of the country."

Tuesday's operation had been "one of the most important confrontations with the terrorists," he said.

The latest clash raised the death toll in the battle between Islamic militants and the government to 291, including 105 policemen and 95 fundamentalists.

Al-Jihad Founder on Violence, National Dialogue
NC3101133094. Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic
26 Jan 94 p 9

[Interview with Kamal al-Sa'id Habib, "one of the founders of the Al-Jihad Organization," by unidentified AL-SAFIR reporter in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [AL-SAFIR] Some reports say al-Jihad and the Islamic Group might merge. How true is this? Were there unification attempts in the past? Why did they fail?

[Habib] Al-Jihad will remain al-Jihad, and the Islamic Group will remain the Islamic Group. Unification has not been proposed because there are major differences in our methods of action. Undoubtedly, the Islamic Group is now more prominent than al-Jihad, but this is because the two organizations have different views. While al-Jihad believes in comprehensive change, the Islamic Group believes in the promotion of virtue and the suppression of vice. The small operations that gave the Islamic Group prominence are part of the group's method of action. Al-Jihad, on the other hand, believes in comprehensive change as the basis of its movement. Therefore, al-Jihad is now weaker than it was in 1981. It lacks organizational foundations and has no unified leadership. In addition, it received many blows since the assassination of President al-Sadat in 1981.

[AL-SAFIR] Do you believe rumors that there is a split in al-Jihad between Ayman al-Zawahiri and Colonel Makkawi?

[Habib] Colonel Makkawi's story is really strange. I think there is an attempt by the media to highlight some names and suggest there is a split in the organization. At any rate, Ayman al-Zawahiri, Colonel Makkawi, or others represent only themselves or small groups within al-Jihad; they do not represent the al-Jihad Organization. Within al-Jihad, there are many schools of thought that take independent actions; it is known that al-Jihad groups work independently. Therefore, I believe that the groups representing al-Jihad are too varied to be incorporated into one organization. I stress that there is no organization for al-Jihad in the full sense of the word; there are groups that believe in the general thought but express themselves with different mechanisms. [passage omitted]

[AL-SAFIR] Is daily violence in the Egyptian streets a way to achieve power? Does al-Jihad believe that violence is needed at this particular stage?

[Habib] Violence and clashes with the state will not produce positive results; indeed, they will not serve the Islamic movement in general. It is better to open up society and try to establish the Islamic presence inside its normal structure. The strategic outlook should be given precedence over this "din," which will not lead to necessary changes. In short, the current violence does not benefit al-Jihad or the Islamic movement in general. Those in the Islamic movement who practice violence are a sector that has been forced by the state to do so. They feel their lives are threatened at any moment by military courts, even when they live abroad. Therefore, they are practicing violence irrespective of its results. We must stress that, historically, it was the state that started violence against the Islamic groups and counterviolence was thus imperative. In addition, the absence of the Islamic shari'ah forces Muslims to demand its implementation, even through violence.

[AL-SAFIR] After each operation, people wonder what the Islamists really want. We are posing this question to you.

[Habib] It should not be taken for granted that the Islamists are the ones who are carrying out these operations. Egyptian society has been infiltrated and the perpetrators could be the Mosad, some armed Christian organizations, or even the state itself. We do not want to assume that the Islamists are terrorists. Although there are some groups deviating from the general course, such as al-Shawqiyun and others, al-Jihad has a clear cultural mission. I, therefore, rule out the possibility of al-Jihad carrying out such operations. We hope the state will implement the Islamic shari'ah so that people can rest. [passage omitted]

[AL-SAFIR] The government is now calling for national dialogue. How do you view this dialogue, knowing that the Islamic groups, especially al-Jihad, are not participating?

[Habib] The government's call is not serious. I believe the president made the call without realizing that there are other forces stronger than him. Concerning the mechanism of implementation, the call for the dialogue is not serious. If it was, then all political forces would have been invited. I think al-Jihad and the Islamic Group have conditions for joining the dialogue. These include releasing detainees, refraining from intervening in Islamic preaching in mosques, and refraining from desecrating sanctities. These are simple and legitimate demands. Dialogue is needed to end Egypt's crisis, but dialogue in its old form is fruitless. [passage omitted]

[AL-SAFIR] Where are the political Islam groups heading?

[Habib] Those groups need to revise their mechanisms and plans to link them to reality. I believe violence will

not produce results. It will not serve the Islamic movement and will not decide the issue. All of society needs a change and the outlook toward change must be comprehensive. Islam in Egypt will inevitably remain, and when the Islamists reach power there will be no struggle among them, as there is in Afghanistan.

Interior Minister Interviewed on Terrorism

NC0202101194 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic
29 Jan 94 p 3

[Interview with Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi by Samir Tawfiq; place and date not given]

[Text] [Tawfiq] Which countries finance terrorism in Egypt and when will they be named? Not naming them causes confusion. Defining them is important so that we know the countries that do not want stability for us.

[Al-Alfi] We have some good information about the financing and training places and the planners and their locations. But there is an advantage in not revealing all the facts about this issue, because there are continuing efforts and intense contacts under way with numerous countries to cooperate with us. Indeed, several fugitive terrorists have been arrested and others have been handed over. I hope you will not ask for the names of these countries and any figures right now, so that we will leave them in the dark.

[Tawfiq] But the minister told a news conference he would name these countries.

[Al-Alfi] Yes, but I said I would do that at the proper time. When I announce a specific location and say we brought in someone from there, his colleagues will go elsewhere or flee the country and thus we will have done them a service by warning them.

The same thing applies to terrorist operations. Sometimes we ask that news of such operations is not published and journalists start asking in whose interests is this secrecy. I tell them: Yes, there is an advantage, that of the investigation.

There are two examples: First, when we arrested the first suspect and banned the publication [of news] on the attempt to kill the prime minister. Then, we arrested nine suspects in subsequent measures.

The second example was the Hulwan movie theater incident. After news was published of two arrests, the others escaped after reading the newspapers. We had pinpointed their locations but found nothing except that day's newspapers.

[Tawfiq] Are the people required to live with terrorism for years to come? When will we eliminate this phenomenon that is alien to our society?

[Al-Alfi] I am not required to coexist with terrorism and it must be eliminated.

Egypt has always been a safe country, where people are extremely friendly and loving and religion is tolerant.

Egypt is home to al-Azhar and Islam is a religion that follows a middle course; it knows no extremism and does not advocate violence. All these criminal incidents are the ideas of renegades with particular beliefs who live in some Islamic and Arab countries. But the Koran, the main source of our legislation, contains straightforward verses renouncing terrorism, violence, and killing.

The entire nation now knows that those who say some people are the infidel and sanction their killing and confiscation of their property are fakes. They are not Muslims. They even commit crimes against Islam and against the country.

It is not only Egypt that faces terrorism, because it is apparent that there is a plot to strike at every Arab and Islamic country in the name of Islam. Training in implementing this plot takes place abroad, where they assemble personnel of every nationality in one place. The methods of arming, training, and financing are the same. I saw pictures of incidents carried out by terrorists abroad and found them compatible with what happens in Egypt. The bombs have the same materials; they put nails and ball bearings in the bombs and use the same detonator. Weapons here and abroad are used in the same way and the training is the same.

Thus, the target is every Arab and Islamic country. Everyone has begun to realize this. We will eradicate terrorism because we are right and the people support us. The end of terrorism is certain.

If we had wanted to eliminate terrorism fast, we could have done so by resorting to extraordinary measures. But we are confronting terrorism with law and democracy, not resorting to extraordinary measures.

In addition to aborting the plots that were prepared during the new year, Christmas, and police day celebrations, we aborted other plots, arrested the plotters, and seized documents containing the names of some personalities. But I will not name names. All these are now cases, which will be referred to the court. The trials will be public. But secrecy will be maintained during the interrogation period.

[Tawfiq] Have antiterrorism steps been developed?

[Al-Alfi] Most important for us, the security men, is that we adopt a scientific course and sound planning and train on the highest level, in addition to acquiring weapons. The police department has been supplied with the most modern weapons. Police missions travel abroad. Technicians and experts arrive in Egypt to train us. The whole department has undergone such training.

I want to say something: Our action is no longer a tit-for-tat response. The initiative now is in the hands of the police. This has produced better results. We are searching for the terrorists' hideouts. We have arrested many terrorists and seized their equipment, explosives, and weapons. Thus, we have foiled several incidents before they took place.

If the terrorists are targeting policemen to get at the morale of the entire police department, I tell them: Every incident against a policeman, security man, or any citizen increases our determination to eliminate these terrorists. It also deepens our faith because we uphold justice and defend religion and the homeland. The initiative is in our hands and will remain so, despite the sacrifices.

[Tawfiq] You have referred 20 officers to the inspection department for investigation for mistreating citizens. You have confirmed that you are following up these investigations personally. Is this a standard policy? How can a complainant reach the minister personally?

[Al-Alfi] My office is open to everyone. There are instructions to the police commanders and the ministry's officials to open their offices to all citizens. No one is lax. We accept no insult against citizens. If there have been excesses, they are isolated incidents; they are not part of a policy toward citizens.

There is periodic, sudden, and continuous inspection of sections, centers, and services departments, such as the traffic department, the passport department, the work permits department, and the civil status department.

Soon there will be a public relations officer in every section, center, and department. The public relations officer will receive the citizen, look into his problem, and advise him what to do. There are also instructions that officers should be present in the service departments day and night.

You may remember a complaint by a tourism college graduate, which was published in the newspaper AKHBAR AL-HAWADITH. I said at the time that the complainant should come to my office immediately. We receive complaints but we also seek to identify the shortcomings. I ask people outside the police department to submit fictitious complaints without identifying themselves. For instance, they may say their home has been burgled or they have been attacked. They see how the duty officer reacts and the way he treats the complaint. Afterward, the complainant reveals his identity, investigates him, and decides on the punishment. There are many officers who behave positively. Some behave negatively. But more officers behave positively and are rewarded. Those who behave negatively are punished while those who behave positively are rewarded.

[Tawfiq] Terrorist incidents take place in broad daylight in crowded places in Upper Egypt's governorates. How do you explain the people's failure to resist the terrorists? Is this due to the negative attitude of the Upper Egypt resident to some customs and traditions that prevent him from intervening or to the police's bad treatment of citizens?

[Al-Alfi] One thing manifested in these crimes is the custom of taking revenge. This custom still exists. In some cities and villages in Upper Egypt, the people take their own revenge and do not surrender the criminal to the authorities. They do not even receive condolences for

their own dead until they have taken revenge. Some families teach their children to take revenge as soon as they are old enough to use firearms. The mountains on both sides of the valley in Upper Egypt also make it easy for criminals and accused people to escape.

I can say the police do not get involved in ill treatment. But there is no doubt that like other police forces, there are violations.

[Tawfiq] Why, when owners of licensed weapons apply to renew their licenses, are weapons being withdrawn? This is happening more and more. And why have stringent measures been adopted when it comes to granting new licenses?

[Al-Alfi] It is not an issue of making things easier or more difficult. The firearms law is clear. There must be justifications and reasons, as stipulated by law, for granting a firearms license. What is happening is that some people are carrying weapons without any legal justification. But when there is a justification, the license is issued immediately. Many incidents happened in Upper Egypt in front of people carrying licensed weapons; they did not attempt to intervene. The issue here does not relate to licensed or unlicensed weapons, but to customs and traditions.

In the past few months we seized about 18,000 unlicensed weapons. We also discovered many weapons manufacturing shops and stores illegally trading in weapons. These stores' licenses have been canceled and their owners brought to trial.

[Tawfiq] Has the attempt to combat terrorism overshadowed the attempt to combat corruption, deviation, and narcotics?

[Al-Alfi] Our task is to implement the law and prevent crime. No one is above the law. Corruption, bribery, fraud, damage to public property, narcotics trafficking, and the exploitation of power must be checked. We investigate every report or every piece of information about such crime and the perpetrators are arrested and brought to trial. This is what is happening and has been happening recently.

[Tawfiq] Why were violations in Madinat al-Nasr only revealed 10 years after they were committed?

[Al-Alfi] The government tackles corruption and implements the law. The government—the Interior Ministry and the state's administrative control departments—uncovered the violations in Madinat al-Nasr. We investigate any information we receive or any report submitted to us to uncover the truth. In the Madinat al-Nasr case, the government control departments uncovered the violations, on which no reports were submitted. The government control departments cannot turn a blind eye to violation. Our position is known.

Repentant terrorist 'Adil 'Abd-al-Baqi, whose story was published by AKHBAR AL-HAWADITH, deserves every honor. He is indeed a brave man and bold and I

wish everyone was like him. He deserved every honor bestowed upon him. AKHBAR AL-YAWM editor Sabir Shawkat also did a courageous job. It was a bold, great step by AKHBAR AL-HAWADITH.

[Tawfiq] Do you have anything else to say?

[Al-Alfi] No. Thank you.

Information Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia

NC0202091894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 2 Feb (MENA)—Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif left Cairo this morning for Jeddah on a brief working visit to Saudi Arabia.

Political Islam Review: 'AQIDATI 25 Jan

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[Editorial Report] In its 25 January issue, Cairo 'AQIDATI publishes on pages 1, 12, and 13 a 1,200-word report on a new experiment started by the Awqaf Ministry involving setting up "fatwa boxes" in the its mosques, where ordinary people can place any questions that require an Islamic legal ruling.

A 75-word report on the front page cites the mufti as denying a report published by a Gulf paper that included his name on a list of those who are defending British writer Salman Rushdie. Mufti Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi asked, "How could I defend a person who is mentally deranged and who had the nerve to mock Islam and its teachings and to ridicule God's prophet?" He then asserts that the Gulf paper's report was baseless, adding that he personally boycotts anyone who gets in touch with Rushdie.

The paper also carries a 200-word report on page 2 saying that the secretariat general of the Higher Committee of Islamic Propagation in al-Azhar and the Awqaf Ministry are preparing for a series of intellectual meetings and seminars to be held during the month of Ramadan. The report says that these meetings will discuss major issues such as drugs and how to combat them, Islam and the environment, social problems, Islam and the extent of the comprehensive development, and unemployment. The discussions will also include other major issues, such as "the issue of apostasy, its gravity and controls, and also Islam's call for security and stability, as well as the nation's unity in its capacity as the safety valve and the challenge." The report adds that "the regiments of propagation, leaders, and writers will visit the governorates throughout the month to discuss these issues, with the participation of the moderate Islamic societies and there will be a special emphasis on the villages to rid them of false ideas."

A 2,500-report is carried on pages 4 and 5 detailing the proceedings of a seminar organized by 'AQIDATI at the Arab Language College in al-Zaqaziq University. The seminar, which involved answers from various scholars and teachers to questions posed by the students, dealt

with the causes of various interpretations of the Koran throughout history. Several scholars stressed that each person has the right to think, argue, and ask questions and should not just accept what earlier scholars and interpreters of Islam said without thinking. Dr. Su'ad Salih, dean of Islamic and Arab Studies at the al-Mansurah Branch of al-Azhar University, then explains the Koran's rules on women's dresses.

In reply to a question by one of the students about the causes of the phenomenon of terrorism and whether the Islamic groups are involved, Dr. Sa'd-al-Din Salih, dean of the Religion and Propagation College in al-Zaqaziq University, says: "There are several expressions that we have become used to hearing from the Western media, such as fundamentalist and Muslim terrorism. These are used by the Western media, which is financed by the Jews to make people frightened of Islam. This media does not differentiate between an observant Muslim and what it calls terrorists and extremists." He quotes Prophet Muhammad as urging his followers not to exaggerate or go to extremes in their religion. Giving the historic reasons for this phenomenon, he says: "The first reason is that religious teaching is neutralized and completely separate from civic teaching, which has no interest in teaching religion except on the margin and the marks given for this subject are not added to the total marks. The second reason is that there is a group of people who have taken it on themselves to attack religion and to call for moral decadence. Extremism in decadence leads to extremism in religion. Hence the state must tackle these two causes to eliminate the phenomenon of terrorism." The seminar then discusses the plight of Muslims in Bosnia and elsewhere and concludes that the Muslims themselves are to be blamed for this because they are divided and attack each other. Dr. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-'Arabi, teacher of literature and criticism at the Arab Language College, says on this issue that: "The Islamic world must use economic boycott and political pressure in support of its causes. We have to preach and contribute our money to support our brothers dispersed in the world."

On pages 8 and 9, the paper carries questions from several readers asking for a religious ruling on various issues. Included in them is a question from Wajih al-Jamal from al-Qalyubiyah asking about the meaning of terrorism and Islam's concept of it. Shaykh Mahmud 'Abd-al-Wahhab Fayid replies that Islam calls for moderation in all matters in our life, citing several Koranic verses. He adds that Islam rejects terrorism, whether from the rulers or the ruled, because terrorism means the use of violence and frightening people.

A 350-word column written by Majdi Salim on page 10 criticizes the Egyptian media's way of confronting the western immoral and debased programs that are transmitted through satellite. He says this media tries to outdo the Western one by transmitting still more decadent programs and liberalism that defies laws and controls. He argues that the only way to combat this cultural

invasion is to strengthen religious beliefs at school, home, work, and through the media.

On the same page the paper carries a 700-word report on a seminar on "intellectual extremism" held at Cairo University. The report begins by citing Mufti Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi's explanation of the origin of the word extremism. He adds that Islam calls on its followers to be moderate in all their affairs and daily life. Muslim thinker Dr. Ahmad Kamal Abu-al-Majd lashes out at those "who do not differentiate between piety and extremism and swear that there are no moderates. I tell them that the Egyptian people are moderate, perform the prayers, and fast during the month [of Ramadan]." He then adds that the crises facing us are the result of the custom among Egyptians, Arabs, and Muslims to regard "reading as an absolute evil to the extent that Arab and Muslim thinking was afflicted by a great imbalance in logical education and this is manifested by the absence of the literature of dialogue." After stressing the universality of Islam, he says that: "Islam's priorities today are to guide its people toward it and to strengthen it and not to call on people to follow it. The evil afflicting the Islamic groups from east to west is that they are preoccupied with Islam at the expense of Muslims and they believe that their mission is to train jurists only."

Dr. Mufid Shihab, Cairo University President, differentiates between extremism, violence, and terrorism and explains each one. He says extremism is deviation that has not reached the extent of harming others, while violence means the use of force or the threat to use it against others, which is a violation of the law, while terrorism means the use of violence and force, contrary to the law, not with the aim of harming a certain person but to cause general destruction and ruin. He adds that: "The terrorist is a criminal and has to be dealt with according to the law." He then conjectures that dialogue and not violence or punishment is the only way to deal with an extremist who does not harm others. He says that "extremism is a first step that might turn into terrorism. We must stop it before it turns into terrorism. Therefore, the treatment differs from case to case. There can be no dialogue with the terrorist or criminal but there has to be a dialogue with the extremists in an attempt to explain the truth."

Dr. 'Ali-al-Din Hilal, teacher at the College of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, then argues that extremism exists in the mind and behavior and that there is extremism not only among Islamic groups but also among some Christian and Jewish groups and among various ethnic groups in other parts of the world.

'AQIDATI carries on page 16 an 800-word report on a question and answer session held by a "religious convoy" with the students of Alexandria and al-Mansurah Universities. The questions deal with the contradicting fatwas, population control, drug addiction, and other issues. Following a teacher's reply to a question on drug addiction, Dr. Muhammad Hasan al-Hafnawi, teacher at al-Azhar's School of Medicine,

answers a question by Suhayr Muhammad al-Bardisi on the reasons for the spread of terrorism in this way that harms Islam. He says that: "Ignorance is the main reason. The extremist has filled his brain with wrong information and followed it and thus has turned into an extremist. He would not have become so had he understood his religion well. The first step to reform him is science, then conviction, and then guidance of the right will. True religious knowledge is the safety valve against deviation. All the forces must rally for this decisive confrontation. Who will defend Egypt if its sons lose faith in it?"

The Awqaf minister then answers a question on why the state has canceled some religious television programs. He explains that each program has its own temporary objective and is meant to tackle a specific point. Management then replaces it with new programs that raise new issues for debate.

On page 20, the paper carries a 900-word report on an interview with Moroccan Muslim thinker Muhammad al-Wazzani in which he discusses the plight of Bosnia's Muslims, the situation in Somalia, and the spread of Islam in Africa. He also asserts that the "terrorist actions" in Algeria and Egypt "have nothing to do with Islam and are alien to our Muslim societies."

Libya

Resolutions of General People's Congress Read

LD3001135994 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1935 GMT 29 Jan 94

[Resolutions of the Libyan General People's Congress (GPC) held in Surt—live]

[Excerpts] [GPC Secretary Zanati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Prayers and the peace of God be on the messenger of God, his kinfolk, his companions and followers until the day of the last judgment. With the blessings of God, I now read the final formulation of the resolutions of the Basic People's Congresses [BPC's] formulated at the General People's Congress at its session for 1403 after the death of the prophet.

Article one: Follow-up and reports.

1. Restudying the speech [by leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi] on the sixth anniversary of the revolution:

The BPCs studied the speech made on the sixth anniversary of the revolution, and affirm that there is no revolution after the Great 1 September revolution, that this revolution, with its masses who possess power, resources, and arms, will strike with an iron fist against anyone contemplating an infringement on the people's power, the foundation of the jamahiri system, and will immediately annihilate any destructive attempts. They also underscore the following:

A. To consider the contents of the speech on the sixth anniversary of the revolution as a line of action for the BPCs and the people's committees, as an affirmation of people's power.

B. There is no alternative to socialism as the ideal solution to distribute wealth among the people of the jamahiri society.

C. Continuing the program of revolutionary change in a democratic way with the popular masses exclusively.

D. Working for and calling for the setting up of Arab unity.

E. To support the Arab Palestinian people for the liberation of all Palestinian territory, and to consider the conflict against the Zionist enemy as a struggle for existence and not a struggle about borders.

F. Incorporating the contents of the speech on the sixth anniversary of the revolution in education curriculums and in various information media.

2. Following up the speeches and meetings of the brother leader of the revolution, as well as his tours and visits:

The BPCs studied the speeches and meetings of the brother leader of the revolution, as well as his tours and visits, and they stressed the following:

A. The masses of the BPCs salute the efforts of the brother leader of the Great 1 September Revolution to affirm and entrench people's power, and they underscore the revolutionary legitimacy founded on the historic responsibility of the brother leader of the revolution.

B. They consider the contents of the speeches and tours of the brother leader of the revolution as a program of action for all the people's committees.

C. The general people's committees will undertake to lay down scientific programs containing the ideas of the brother leader in all fields, particularly the exploitation of solar energy, the desalination of sea water, and the search for alternative sources of energy.

D. Focusing on addressing and energizing the masses because Libya's relations are with peoples and not governments.

E. Condemning the unjust Western stand which is behind the wrongful UN Security Council resolutions imposing mandatory measures against the Great Jamahiriya.

Reports:

A. Reports of the General People's Committee: The BPCs discussed the annual general report presented by the General People's Committee, and its contents concerning the 1994-96 three-year plan and its objectives, and also the economic, financial, monetary, and commercial policies as means of realizing the three-year plan objectives, and they decided the following:

1. Commitment to the directives of the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and considering it as a program of action for the General People's Committee.

2. Completing the suspended projects which are the subject of contracts, and seeking as much as possible to withdraw projects from the foreign companies carrying them out, and to replace them by national means of implementation.

3. Laying down a schedule for reducing foreign manpower in national companies and enterprises, and replacing them by national elements from among released conscripts and graduates.

4. Preventing the smuggling out of subsidized goods, paying attention to marketing channels, observance of the rules of the legislation organizing them, observance of the legislation on the control of prices, and providing adequate quantities of the necessary goods and the requirements of employment.

5. Implementing the general economic policies, whether financial, monetary, or commercial on the lines of the contents of the above-mentioned report.

B. Report of the General People's Committee for Industry:

The BPCs reviewed the report of the General People's Committee for Industry. They decided to take into consideration its recommendations and to stress the following:

1. Commitment to the directives of the brother leader concerning the industrial sector.

2. Allocating and implementing an adequate operational budget for the companies, plants, and equipment pertaining to this sector, as well as to the private industrial, handicraft-related, cooperative and share-holding sector in accordance with the mechanism mentioned in the recommendations suggested by the General People's Committee for Industry. The Libyan Central Bank will take the necessary measures for this purpose.

3. Building more plants with an emphasis on studying the economic profitability of industrial projects before carrying them out, and closing down the existing plants that fail to cover the expenses of their operations.

4. Allocating the necessary amounts of foreign currency for investment in industry, whether in new projects or for renewal and development work.

5. Improving control and administrative competence in all plants, and stressing the need to act according with the recommendations contained in the report on contribution to administrative stability and on encouraging industrial skills and practice, as well as choosing highly competent personnel to manage companies and plants.

6. Strengthening the [industrial] sector to enable it to carry out the resolutions of the BPCs, and encouraging investments in both public and private industry by carrying out the legislation in force, simplifying procedures, and using industrial zones.

7. Taking into account environmental considerations when setting up plants, and paying attention to benefits from [industrial] waste. [passage omitted]

C. Report of the General People's Committee for Sea Resources:

The BPC masses have discussed the General People's Committee for Sea Resources and have decided the following in this issue:

1. Stressing the implementation of the brother leader's directives in this sector and considering them as a method of action. [passage omitted, including nos. 2 and 3]
4. Stressing the observations made in the report of this sector submitted to the BPCs, and the importance of training nationals in sea-fishing professions, expanding the opening of training centers and providing work opportunities for their graduates, and the nonreliance on foreign manpower, except for, in particular, experts and technicians in tuna fishing and fish farming.
5. Cooperating with competent parties in order to guarantee the laying down of regulations on exporting sea products, satisfying the needs of the fresh and canned fish domestic market and fixing suitable prices for them in a way that suits the income of the Libyan family.
6. Backing the Office for Sea Resources with the means, equipment, and material and human resources to enable it to carry out its work for the implementation of laws and legislations in force that ensure the protection of our sea resources in cooperation with the competent quarters.
7. Controlling the companies of the sector, closing their accounts, and working toward solving their debts, and presenting a detailed report on them.
8. Taking into consideration the observations issued in the report of the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up. [passage omitted]
3. Adopting the housing program proposed by the General People's Committee for Utilities, Tourism, and Communications.
4. Maintaining and completing [the building of] roads inside and outside cities, endeavoring to build bridges over rivers in remote areas, and reducing the distance people have to travel to reach fast roads.
5. Paying attention to environment protection through interest in general hygiene, health services, providing drinking water and chlorinating it, and setting up more of the necessary analysis laboratories.
6. Setting up a mechanism to implement the housing policy in the Great Jamahiriyah, endeavoring to complete interrupted projects, providing loans for construction and building homes for people with low income.
7. Paying attention to and maintaining telecommunications and post districts, and covering the remote areas with centimetric waves in compliance with the economic activity of the company. [sentence as heard].
8. Paying attention to the implementation of the railroads program, expanding it to the interior of the country, and speeding it up according to the decisions of the BPCs when they discussed the railroads memorandum.
9. Supporting the Libyan Arab Airlines to enable it to face the financial burdens incurred during the unjust blockade period.

10. Endeavoring to maintain airports and ports, and completing proposed and interrupted actions.

11. Supporting the tourism program as an important source of income as long as its implementation does not contradict the customs of the Arab-Islamic society. Paying attention to tourist cities and villages, building rest areas on beaches, preserving archeological areas and old quarters, and setting up a tourist police body according to the decisions of the BPCs congresses in their discussion of the tourism memorandum.

12. To confine the implementation of projects to companies and national cooperatives as much as possible in carrying out projects of a special nature.

13. To try to balance the final accounts of companies which are in the sector.

14. To develop civilian offices and to introduce computer technology in their work.

15. To take into account the report of the General People's Committee for Control and Popular Follow-up and the report of the revolutionary missions.

16. To regulate the issuance of trade licenses and end the phenomenon of haphazard construction in cities and rural areas and also the need to preserve the forests and protect public parks and to draw up protective measures and scientific studies to prevent sand from invading public highways.

17. The need to renew and maintain street lighting and to look after public gardens, parks, resorts, and beaches and making public, private, and individual organizations responsible for adhering to the general town planning when they start to implement any projects.

18. To regulate the collection of taxes relating to the sector and not to place additional burdens on the citizens and to obligate the public sector to settle whatever debts they incur.

19. To introduce supervision over excavation in urban areas and to stop all forms of violations, to liquidate the phenomenon of brokerage, to work for controlling charges, and to implement all laws pertaining to the issuing of all forms of licenses in accordance with the resolutions of the BPC's.

20. To pay attention to and maintain the merchant fleet and increase its capacity so that it provides better service to the citizens.

21. To provide subsidies for public cleansing companies and to protect the environment and not to place additional charges on the citizens, to uphold the principle of cooperative and individual action in the field of public cleansing, to encourage organized collective action and media enlightenment of the citizens concerning protection the environment against pollution and to impose financial penalties on violators in accordance with the laws in force.

E. Report of the General People's Committee for Education, Youth, Scientific Research, and Vocational Training: The BPC's discussed the report of the General People's Committee for Education, Youth, Scientific Research, and Vocational Training and decided the following:

1. To consider the directives of the brother leader of the Great 1 September Revolution as a line of action for the General People's Committee for Education, Youth, Scientific Research, and Vocational Training.
2. Implementing the recommendations and suggestions mentioned in the report of this sector.
3. Taking an interest in the sports of the masses and sports for women. [passage omitted].

F. Report of the General People's Committee for Information, Culture, and Mass Mobilization:

The BPCs discussed the report submitted by the General People's Committee for Information, Culture and Mass Mobilization and adopted it, stressing the following:

1. Adopting the points and proposals of the report and supporting it with the necessary means.
2. Focusing on and taking an interest in media reporting on the visits and tours of the brother leader of the revolution.
3. Implementing the BPCs' resolutions, which were formulated in their previous sessions, which have not been implemented.
4. Implementing the observations of the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up and the reports of the mobile revolutionary missions.
5. Stressing the setting up of an information policy which counters hostile information and cultural invasion and following local, national, and international events.
6. Working for the improvement and strengthening of television and radio transmission so that it reaches all parts of the Great Jamahiriya.
7. Maintaining transmission stations and radio recording studios and making spare parts available.
8. Speeding up the Great Jamahiriya's satellite transmissions after stressing the nature of information as being national and belonging to the masses.
9. Working for agreements with the Maghreban Arab states on transmitting programs of national and religious festivities.
10. Reconsidering the hours of daily transmission and in particular during the academic year.
11. Taking an interest in radio programs and taking into consideration the traditions of society and protecting it from (?pornography).
12. Ensuring that information is a utility which provides a public service and the companies of this sector should not be (?privatized) and opening up an opportunity for shareholding companies and information cooperatives in order to provide their information services in the framework of the orientations and the civilized values of the Jamahiri society.
13. The public organizations and institutions must pay back their debts to the information sector in order to enable it to perform its role. At the same time, the budgets of the information sector companies must be concluded on time.

14. Paying attention to the cultural and information sections in order to contribute to achieving the goals of the sector by those people selected and under their supervision.
15. Paying attention to the cultural centers and libraries and providing books and publications at suitable prices.
16. Paying attention to our folklore and arts groups and encouraging talents in the various fields of information.
17. Extending the establishment of centers for distributing local newspapers and publications and ensuring they reach the various areas of the country on time.
18. Providing equipped information vehicles and distributing them among the people's congresses.
19. Establishing a body for analyzing public opinion, detecting and combating rumors, and paying attention to mobilization.
20. Paying attention to establishing trained human talents and improving administrative and financial regulations, and creating financial and moral incentives.

G. Report by the General People's Committee for Justice and Public Security: The Basic People's Congresses discussed the report of the General People's Committee for Justice and Public Security and decided the following:

1. Emphasizing the necessity of implementing the directives of the brother leader and considering them a course of action for the justice and public security sector.
2. Consolidating the finances and manpower of the judiciary in order to enable it to implement the resolutions of the BPC's.
3. Paying attention to the local people's security program and choosing committed members.
4. Tightening the supervision of the ports of entry and exit, looking out for infiltrators, stopping smugglers, combating drugs and alcoholic drinks.
5. Working seriously toward combating crime and pursuing criminals.
6. Monitoring those who enter the country by listing and recording them at the security centers.
7. Supporting the justice staff and protecting them in order to ensure just sentences.
8. Ensuring quick decisions on the accumulated cases in the courts.
9. Approving the remarks of the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up on the [justice] sector.

H. Report by the General People's Committee for Energy: The BPC's discussed the report of the General people's Committee for Energy and decided the following:

1. A stress is put on the need to make public companies and departments pay their debts due to consumption of electricity, strengthen the public company for electricity to enable it to perform maintenance work, provide it with the electrical material necessary for its work, and take legal measures against those who mess about with the property of the energy sector.

2. Focusing on getting the maximum benefit from natural gas, reducing and exploiting burned gas, developing oil refineries and thermal stations, and providing gas stations with oil products.

3. Taking into account the remarks in the report on the energy sector and bolster the latter so that the BPC's resolutions will be implemented, and so that the projects of the industrial complex of Ras Lanuf will be completed.

4. Increasing training programs for workers in the energy sector and increasing institutes meant to help achieve the objective of replacing foreign workers with national ones. [passage omitted]

I. Report by the General people's Committee for Planning, Trade, and Finance: The BPC's discussed the report of the General People's Committee for Planning, Trade, and Finance and decided the following:

1. To consider the directives of the brother leader of the revolution as a line of action for the sector.

2. Improving control over the foodstuff goods enterprises and the consumer establishments, and stopping the smuggling out of subsidized goods.

3. To work with the authorized bodies to fix prices and activate the role of the Judicial Control Commission and to take deterrent measures against offenders.

4. To ensure that those decisions of the BPC's that have not been implemented are implemented.

5. To pay wages on time.

6. To take note of the observations of the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up.

7. To close the budgets of all companies and bodies of the sector on time.

8. To facilitate export and import procedures, paying attention to quality and the need to avoid importing the equivalents of local products, and to tighten control over materials entering the country, and to use the barter system whenever possible.

9. To organize the collection of sovereignty related taxes and to use them to finance the general budget.

10. To collect debts owed to the Jamahiriya by other states.

11. To administer sums allocated to the sector and approved by the Basic People's Congresses in accordance with the available resources.

12. To expand storage capacity for essential commodities and to provide a sufficient strategic store of such commodities.

13. To reorganize, support, and expand popular markets.

14. To complete projects that have come to a halt and maintain existing projects in accordance with those stipulated in the three-year program.

15. To organize and control trade.

16. To oblige public bodies to settle their debts to the sector.

17. To support the sector and minimize the difficulties facing it. [passage omitted]

L. Report by the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up: The BPC's have discussed

the report of the General People's Committee for People's Control and Follow-up, and have expressed their satisfaction and decided the following:

1. Considering the directives of the brother leader of the revolution as a method of action for this sector.

2. Stressing the observations contained in this report.

3. Submitting the observations and recommendations contained in the report to the General People's Committees and Libya's Central Bank in order to deal with the shortcomings and put an end to the contraventions causing the decline of services in all sectors.

4. Considering the observations contained in the report as question points for the people's committees.

5. Stressing the implementation of laws and resolutions issued by BPC's in their previous sessions.

6. Tightening control of public funds and making those who contravene the law appear before special courts.

7. Tightening control over public and investments companies and closing their accounts by their due deadlines.

8. Devoting care to precision and comprehensiveness in the reports issued by various sectors, in a way that would prevent the repetition of negative points in the report.

9. Praising the efforts made by workers in a given sector in order to present the facts to the BPC masses.

M. Report by the People's Committee for the Great Man-Made River: [passage omitted]

6. Imposing taxes on those who come to Libya and customs duties on goods entering through entry points.

7. Doing without unskilled foreign workers and replacing them with trained nationals.

The BPC's have discussed the report of Libya's Central Bank and approved the report and recommendations contained in it and stress the following:

In view of the unjust mandatory measures imposed on the Great Jamahiriya, which aim at impeding the development of our economic and financial potential, the BPC's stress the following:

1. Adopting the preventive measures taken by Libya's Central Bank in order to protect its foundations and precautionary measures in facing the current circumstances.

2. Rationalization of spending of foreign currency and laying down the necessary priorities for it and stressing the need to give priority to food products, medicines and technical equipment and operational requirements for production sectors which are economically profitable.

3. Diversifying sources of foreign currency revenues and controlling oil and nonoil foreign currency revenues.

4. Protecting the value of the Libyan dinar through controlling the availability of currency and following a financial policy liable to develop resources of the state without having recourse to public debt and scheduling the payment of existing public debt by the general treasury.

5. Stressing the following up of the recovery of foreign loans and the interest due from them.

6. Developing bank services and increasing competence in performing these services.

7. Paying attention to the economic and financial data which reflect economic and financial activity in a way which helps the adoption of sound resolutions at the opportune moment.

8. Ensuring the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report.

The BPC's discussed the report of the Struggle Fund and approved the following:

1. The public authorities must pay its commitments to the fund.
2. The fund must invest its monies in the Jamahiriya, allocate part of the investments for the benefit of the Great Man-Made River project and the consolidation the Property Saving Bank, and must contribute to the financing of the railways projects.
3. Ratifying the points and recommendations of the report [of the fund].
4. Consolidating the Arab and Islamic institutions which adopts positive stances toward the Great Jamahiriya.
5. Emphasizing the contents of the General People's Committee for Control and Follow-up.
6. Distributing the fund's projects among the remote villages and areas.

Report of the revolutionary convoys. The BPC's have discussed the report of the revolutionary convoys and have decided the following with regard to it:

1. That the report of the revolutionary convoys should be considered a point of assistance to the General People's Committee, the specific general people's committees and the sectors dealt with in the report.
2. To support of revolutionary convoys with the resources which will enable them to perform their task and to continue their supervision of and field visits to all service and production sectors in order to discover where there are shortcomings.
3. To pass the results of the report of the revolutionary convoys to the bodies set up by the Basic People's Congresses which are vested with the power to investigate negative practices, contraventions and deviations within the framework of decisions issued by the BPC's.
4. To stress the observations made in the report. The drafting of the resolutions of the BPC's on the first article, follow-up and reports, has ended. Thank you and peace be upon you. [applause; passage indistinct; drowned by noise from the delegates]

Reading of the article [pauses], drafting of the article on general issues; brother Sadiq al-Tabib [not further identified], go ahead.

[Al-Tabib] The second article, general issues.

1. The issuing of a constitution. The BPC's have discussed the memorandum on the issuing of a constitution and decided that a constitution should be issued provided that a draft should be presented to the Basic People's Congresses. [passage omitted]

1. Entrusting people's committees and executive bodies affiliated to them to implement strictly all legislations

which ensure equality before the law and putting an end to any infringement of it and punish all those who violate it and the people who are scornful of the law and those who misuse their powers. [passage omitted].

B. The railroad track: The BPC's discussed the proposed executive program included in the memorandum on constructing the railway line, ratified the proposed budget, and emphasized the necessity of implementing the following:

1. Adopting the directives of the brother leader of the revolution in the speedy implementation of this project.
2. Considering this project as one of the strategic projects that should take priority in implementation as it contributes to achieving Arab economic integration and bringing forward the day of Arab comprehensive unity.
3. Financing the project from oil revenues instead of self-financing, in order not to burden the citizens, and drawing up rules to regulate that.
4. Involving the masses of the BPC's in implementing this project according to a well-organized and studied program.
5. Directing the Struggle Fund, Social Security Fund, and national companies and cooperatives toward participating in implementing this project according to their resources and specialities.
6. Inviting friendly [word indistinct] countries to participate in implementing this project.
7. Utilizing the national factories to manufacture whatever is possible in this field, provided that they adhere to the recognized international standards.
8. Quick issuing of the executive regulations of the project, utilizing the persons trained in this field according to their specialities, and raising their standard by sending them on refresher courses.
9. Not exempting the non-national companies from customs, but exempting the materials necessary for this project from customs.
10. Considering the route of the railroad tracks and the land necessary for implementing the project as public-service facilities void of agricultural character.
11. Giving the citizens just compensation for the trees, houses, and installations that fall in the path of the railroad track when implementing it.

C. Laying down a revolutionary policy for industry: The BPC's have discussed the memorandum on laying down a revolutionary policy for industry and have decided the following in this issue:

1. Implementing the directives of the brother leader of the revolution issued in the industrial field and preparing a program of action for their implementation.
2. Taking an interest in, and best exploiting natural resources and raw materials by processing them locally.
3. Making the existing production capacities reach the highest level in a way that achieves the highest volume of economic yield, and contributes to the export of the surplus after satisfying local needs.
4. Encouraging investments in industrial projects with economic profitability in the public and private sectors,

whether that of the private individual, partnership, and shareholding, and giving incentives and privileges concerning tax exemption, the specialization of industrial zones and providing protection from foreign competition, and providing the necessary financing for industrial investments. [passage omitted]

7. Encouraging foreign investments in industrial projects of advanced technology that require a high technical expertise.

8. Paying attention to backing and developing handicrafts, considering that the latter is a permanent national heritage that must be protected in order not to become obsolete, and working for future generations to inherit it.

9. Ensuring a fair distribution of industrial projects among all parts of the Great Jamahiriya, taking into consideration the available specializations and raw materials.

10. Paying attention to the study of the possible dangers of industrial pollution before setting up any industrial project with the aim of protecting the environment from the effects of industrialization.

D. Putting forward a revolutionary agricultural policy: The Basic People's Congresses discussed the memorandum put forward to them regarding the revolutionary policy in the sector of Agrarian Reform, Land Reclamation, and Animal Resource and adopted them. [passage omitted]

E. Memorandum on the study of the health situation: [passage omitted]

F. The study of security. The BPC's have examined the memorandum on the study of security and have decided the following:

1. To stress the implementation of the directives of the brother leader of the revolution and the decisions of the BPC's regarding public security and local popular security.
2. To increase support for public security in the form of material, manpower, and technology to enable it to play its role in protecting the security of the Jamahiriya.
3. To endeavor to rebuild local popular security at the level of every BPC to enable them to carry out their mission and achieve the desired philosophy of popular security in the Jamahiri society.
4. To support the judicial bodies to help them examine cases and issue and execute judgements speedily.
5. To tighten control over points of entry into the Jamahiriya and put an end to infiltration.
6. To expand media programs that aim to spread awareness and consciousness of security among the masses.

G. The cost of living and endeavors to organize trade: The BPC's have discussed the memorandum on the cost of living and endeavors to organize trade. They have ratified it and have decided the following:

a. Local production.

1. To work to organize the inflow of the operational requirements and spare parts for local (?surface)

[sathiyah] factories so that the production of commodities aimed at can be achieved.

2. To prevent the export of commodities produced locally of which there is not a sufficient supply to satisfy demand.

3. To provide control of local products and ensure that they comply with the established specifications.

b. Import and export.

1. To reorganize import and distribution structures and work to set up specialized companies to import commodities and implement the import balances approved by the BPC's. [12-second break in reception] and follow them up with regard to their compliance with the established specifications and health conditions.

3. [number as heard] To tighten control over commodities coming from points of entry and ensuring that they comply with specifications and health conditions, and to end the outflow and smuggling of commodities from the Great Jamahiriya.

c. The economic policy:

1. Working to increase the production level in local production units and using local potentialities as well as possible in order to achieve targets in the production of goods and services.
2. Encouraging savings and investments and conversion to production and working to put an end to inflation by all means.
3. Rationalization of spending and consumption.
4. Creating a balance between the level of per capita income and price level and studying the state of present salaries.

d. The commercial policy:

1. Making sure that production and industrial units abide by direct sale to approved channels.
2. Backing people's markets with goods and enabling them to provide their commercial services with the aim of preventing exploitation.
3. Paying attention to the use of the Consumption Book by reviewing the rations that are allocated to the individual and tightening control over consumer associations [as heard] with regard to distribution of goods.
4. Ensuring the fixing of prices of goods and services, advertising them with all means, and following up their implementation.
5. Reorganizing and making efficient the legal control bodies in a way that will enable them to intensify their efforts in order to carry out their supervision and control tasks.
6. Organizing and coordinating import through barter in a way that fulfills the need for goods of the society.

H. The housing problem: [passage omitted]

I. The study of the convertibility of the Libyan dinar:

The BPC's discussed the memorandum on the possibility of liberating the Libyan dinar and making it into a

convertible currency. The BPCs emphasize that the convertibility of the dinar depends of fulfilling the following conditions:

1. Establishing a strong national economic basis which does not depend on oil as an only source of income and which would be able to face up to external competition in order to achieve an increase in production to satisfy local consumption and reduce imports.
2. Diversifying and developing the resources and sources of foreign currency by creating new sources of income from non-oil exports, tourism, and foreign investment.
3. Increasing the participation of Libyans in production and reducing as much as possible reliance on foreign labor.
4. Concentrating on the production and services projects of economic benefit and raising the efficiency of economic performance in all sectors.
5. Organizing and raising the standard of the performance of the internal and external trade institutions and providing goods at suitable quantities and prices and of suitable quality, and at the same time giving priority to the essential goods.
6. Rationalizing expenditure and increasing foreign currency reserves in order to consolidate the Libyan dinar.
7. Carrying out the necessary changes to determine the value of the Libyan dinar against the other currencies in a way which is compatible with the ability of the national economy and which does not affect the purchasing power of the citizens and their living standard.
8. Establishing a special committee in this field which would submit the results of its work to the BPC's.
10. [number as heard], the problem of general cleanliness and protection of the environment. [passage omitted, including section J.]

K. The problem of water shortage in cities: [passage omitted]

L. The problem of labor:

The BPC's discussed the memorandum on the problem of labor and ratified it with the following remarks:

1. Working towards transforming the points of the memorandum into practical plans and programs.
2. Organizing the fields of employment, distributing the employment offices everywhere in the Great Jamahir-iyah in order to facilitate the procedures for those looking for employment and giving priority in employment for Libyan nationals and making them replace the foreigners.
3. Forcing the foreign companies to train and employ Libyan nationals in the jobs and posts which do not need locally unavailable specialized experience.
4. Expanding the vocational training and rehabilitation programs and establishing specialized institutions for training professionally and technically capable talents in order to make them replace the foreign workforce.
5. Expanding the construction of factories and production units in order to absorb the largest possible number of those looking for employment.

6. Establishing administrative stability; drawing up firm and stable bases for the administration; applying correct work aptitudes in the secretariats, institutions, organizations and companies; and restricting employment in the administrative structure to Libyans only.

7. Facilitating the procedures for those who want to get into the production sector and giving bank loans for economic activities.

8. Consolidating the general manpower institution with the necessary capabilities and making it responsible for proving employment opportunities for the university and college graduates and for those released from the Armed People, and making it responsible also for involving the Libyans in the implementation of the important transformation projects, such as the projects of the Great Man-Made River and railroad track.

M. The study of the policy and conditions for the distribution of wealth. The BPC's discussed the memorandum on the study of the policy and conditions for the distribution of wealth and decided the following in this regard:

1. To complete the infrastructural projects and invest oil revenues in creating a production base in the agricultural and industrial fields, and improving the level of educational and health services, and other projects and public utilities.
2. To continue to grant housing, agricultural, and industrial loans to citizens.
3. To control price rises and continue to subsidize rationed commodities, provide free education and health care, and provide the essential food, clothing, and transport that society requires.
4. To provide allowances for large and needy families and those with limited incomes and basic pensions in order to attain justice.
5. To reduce the foreign work force and provide work opportunities for graduates and those discharged from Armed Forces units in professional and productive fields.

N. Reconsideration of public sector companies. The BPC's have discussed the memorandum regarding the reconsideration of public sector companies and decided the following in this regard:

1. To work to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the administrative, financial, and technical situation of all the companies, and to reorganize them so that they will attain the benefits for which they were established, and to work to merge similar companies and wind up ineffective companies.
2. To redivide production revenues in production companies between society, the producers, and the factory.
3. To transform service companies into executive bodies under the specialized sector.
4. The participation of individuals and investment bodies in the companies.
5. To oblige all public companies to pay their financial commitments to the public treasury.

6. To support companies and work to provide all operating requirements in order to increase production capacity.
7. To work to transfer ownership of public companies where this is possible, to transform them into production partnerships and share companies, to give them the necessary facilities, encourage them, pay the amounts due to them, and open credits for them.
8. To orientate companies to set up investment production projects based on the use of their activities to participate in covering their expenditures.

P. [letter as heard] Tourism: The Basic People's Congress debated the memorandum on tourism, approved it, and made the following observations:

1. Stress the need for taking interest in tourism as a vital source of revenue for supporting the national economy, taking into consideration our Arab identity and social values.
2. Further attention to be given to antiquities, historical towns, and the propagation of popular heritage.
3. Legislation to be passed on the organization of tourism, internally and externally. Provision of tourist features in areas of attraction to tourists, and setting up a special tourism police.
4. Ideal exploitation of beaches; building towns and health facilities on the beaches, with particular attention paid to the protection of the environment.
5. Attention to be paid to tourism information internally and externally through various media channels in order to make tourism of every type known.
6. Encouragement of partnership and individual investments in the sphere of tourism.
7. Consolidation of the public tourism body and the antiquities authority in terms of finance and human resources; attention to be paid to national cadres, as well as their training and qualification; expanding the establishment of hotel management institutes.
8. Reassessment of hotel charges in the Great Jamahiriyyah and providing a variety in order to make them suitable for all kinds of national residents, tourists, and others, according to their ability to pay, in a way that will promote internal tourism and bolster the competitiveness of external tourism.

Q. Jamahiri sports and the prohibition of violent sports: The Basic People's Congress debated the memorandum on Jamahiri sports and the prohibition of violent sports, approved it, and made the following observation:

1. Confirming the prohibition of every kind of violent sport, the implementation of the resolutions of the Basic People's Congress regarding the presentation and consolidation of the concept of Jamahiri sports. [passage omitted]

Q. [letter as heard]. The study on organizing the employment of foreigners: The BPC's discussed the memorandum on studying the organization of the employment of foreigners and decided the following:

1. To emphasize the points included in the memorandum and the necessity of working toward transforming them into practical plans and programs.
2. To dispense with the foreign work force, replacing it with Libyan nationals and not to conclude new contracts except for rare specialties and under very strict conditions.
3. To emphasize the importance of training and rehabilitation of nationals in order to replace the foreigners.
4. To control the points of entry into the Great Jamahiriyyah and recording all the particulars of those who enter the country.
5. To return infiltrators to their countries.
6. To rely as much as possible on national companies and cooperatives in implementing the transformation projects.

This is the end of the draft of the public issues article.

Article Three: Laws.

Notwithstanding your decision that the laws should be promulgated as well as announced at the meeting of the General People's Congress, it has been proposed, given their huge number and length, that only the titles of the laws enacted will be enumerated and that only three texts will be read out as a sample. The rest will be announced and published later. [applause] [passage omitted]

A law on general amnesty for some crimes: The General People's Congress, in implementation of the resolutions of the BPC's in their second ordinary session for the year 1403, corresponding to 1993, that were drafted by the general meeting of the BPC's, people's committees, and professional unions and associations, and in celebration of the 24th anniversary of the great al-Fatih revolution, the General People's Congress in its second ordinary session between 9 and 17 Sha'ban 1403 since the death of the Prophet, and after cognizance of the penal code, drafted the following law:

Article One: A pardon for the crimes committed before the day of Ashura [anniversary of the martyrdom of the grandson of the Prophet] 1403 since the death of the Prophet, provided that the sentenced or accused announces his repentance, and promises in writing not to return to crime, and to reconcile with the victim or his guardian according to circumstances.

Article Two: The previous article does not apply to persons sentenced for or accused of the following crimes:

1. Crimes punishable by death.
2. Crimes of embezzlement or usurping public funds, except in cases of restoring the monies, then this pardon applies.
3. Escapees from rehabilitation and reform institutions after the day of Ashura 1403.

Article Three: The procedures of the penal case, investigation, or legal action in the crimes to which the pardon applies should be suspended.

Article Four: The pardon applied according to this law will be cancelled if any of the pardoned commit any

further premeditated crime or violation, and he will be returned to prison to serve the sentence, or what remained of it. As for those whose trial is not concluded, the legal procedures against them should be continued, and this should be announced in the various media organs.

Article Five: Without violating Article Three of this law, the criminal records of those to whom this pardon applies should be erased. This pardon should not result in them receiving any salaries or wages during their absence from work. Their employers should not be obliged to give them back their previous jobs.

Article Six: This law does not apply to those sentenced for or accused of the following crimes:

1. Treason and conspiracy against the security of the revolution and people's authority, whether directly or indirectly, or whether this crime was the primary one or related to other ordinary crimes.
2. Spying or escaping to a country hostile to the Great Jamahiriya.
3. Apostasy and secret work against the security of the Great Jamahiriya, and working against the interests of society.
4. Any other crime similar to the crimes referred to in this article.

Article Seven: Only the Supreme Court is authorized to decide the problems related to the application of this law, following an application by the public prosecutor.

Article Eight: This law comes into effect from the date of issue and it is to be published in the official gazette and the various media organs.

The General People's Congress. Issued in Surt on 17 Shawwal 1403, corresponding to 29 January.

Let me continue reading the law on banning alcoholic drinks:

The General People's Congress: In implementation of the decisions of the BPC's in their second ordinary session for 1994 which were drafted by the general meeting of the BPC's, the People's Committees and the trade unions and professional associations, and the General People's Congress in its session held between 20 and 29 January 1994, the following law has been drafted:

Article 1: The drinking of alcoholic drinks, dealing in, possessing, obtaining, making, or trading in alcoholic drinks, offering or giving them as a present are considered forbidden acts and the perpetrator is punishable by the penalties stipulated in this law.

Article 2: Anything is considered an alcoholic drink if a small or large amount of it causes intoxication.

Article 3: Whoever distills alcoholic drinks or trades in them is punishable by imprisonment and a fine of no less than 1,000 dinars and no more than 4,000 dinars.

Article 4: Whoever drinks alcoholic drinks, pure or mixed, handles, possesses, owns, or offers alcoholic

drinks, gives them, offers them as a present, or deals in them in any form is punishable by a fine of no less than 1,000 dinars and no more than 3,000 dinars. If the perpetrator is poor, he must be made to work in a public sector utility for a period equivalent to the value of the specified fine in accordance with the regulations contained in a decision passed by the General People's Committee.

Drinking alcoholic drinks and handling them, which are punishable according to the rulings of this law, are considered offenses where preventive imprisonment is permissible until the source of the alcoholic drink has been revealed.

Also, the parent of a minor is punishable by a fine of no less than 500 dinars and no more than 1,000 dinars if the minor commits any of the acts stipulated in the first clause of this article; in addition the minor will be housed in a rehabilitation camp until his parent pledges in writing not to allow the minor to return to commit the act.

Article 5: Whoever obtains alcoholic drinks, pure or mixed, from a foreign quarter is punishable by a fine of no less than 3,000 dinars and no more than 10,000 dinars. If as a consequence of this act, that quarter, any of its agents, or anyone else working for it in any form and by any means should be provided with information or secrets which could damage the security of the Great Jamahiriya or the Arab nation, the quarter responsible for the investigation should refer the papers to the office of the people's prosecutor to complete the investigation procedures, and a lawsuit should be brought in accordance with Chapter 1 of Volume 2 of the Penal Code.

Article 6: If a non-Muslim drinks alcoholic drinks, pure or mixed, or handles them at a shop, public place, or place open to the general public, or is found in that shop or place in a state of obvious drunkenness, he is punishable by imprisonment for a period of no less than two months and no more than six months, or a fine of no less than 500 dinars and no more than 1,000 dinars. The competent quarters have the right to order his expulsion from the territory of the Great Jamahiriya after carrying out the penalty passed on him.

Article 7: Offenses stipulated in this law are confirmed by any means of verification provided for in the law of penal procedures.

Article 8: As a consequence of passing a final sentence in connection with any of the stipulated offenses in this law, the perpetrator will be deprived of the following rights and privileges:

1. The right to be deemed suitable for appointment to any leading or senior post, or to remain in such a post.
2. The right for appointment to the secretariats of the BPC, the People's Committees, federations, unions, and professional associations.
3. The right to acquire general titles, ranks, insignia, medals, badges of honor, etc.

4. The right to be deemed suitable to assume guardianship and custodianship affairs.

5. The right to have his testimony accepted by the courts if it is confirmed to the court before sentence is passed that he was conclusively convicted of any of the offenses stipulated in this law.

6. The right to be granted a certificate of good behavior and good reputation.

7. The right to drive motor vehicles or fly planes, or the cancellation of such a licence if it has been issued.

This penalty ends three years from the date when the sentence was passed by a final conviction without violating a stronger sentence provided for by any other law. Should the perpetrator be sentenced more than twice for any of the offenses stipulated in this law, the convicted person is banned from holding any office or remaining in it, and he is completely banned from the right to obtain a licence to drive motor vehicles or fly planes.

Article 9: Under all conditions, instructions must be issued on confiscating seized pure or mixed alcoholic drinks. These should be poured away or destroyed with the full knowledge of the competent member of the public prosecution office, and a record of that should be kept.

Instructions will also be issued on confiscating the machines, equipment, and materials actually used in producing alcoholic drinks, confiscating the means of transport used in carrying them with the purpose of trading in them, and closing down the places used for the consumption, production, or handling of alcoholic drinks, and these cannot be reopened unless they are prepared for the purpose of a project and after obtaining the approval of the competent public prosecutor. [five-minute news summary]

2. [number as heard]: First, to continue action for reexamining the UN Charter in order to safeguard the right of the peoples and the states of the world in this organization and enable the international organizations to carry out their effective role in international issues for the sake of safeguarding international peace and security. At the same time consideration should be given to the need to reexamine the membership of the Security Council with regard to its permanent and non-permanent member states. The bases—national, regional, and population considerations—should be taken into account so that the nations of the world may liquidate the principle of the hegemony of the major powers by their use of the veto.

2. [number as heard]: Confirmation by the BPC's that Security Council resolutions against the Zionist enemy should be implemented on the basis of treating all the states of the world according to one criterion.

3. Confirmation by the BPC's of their condemnation of international terrorism in all its forms and particularly state terrorism. They request the General People's Committee for External Liaison and International Cooperation to work through conferences and international and regional organizations to draw up clear concepts of the

definitions and issues of terrorism. Also to define the correct concepts of human rights and democracy in a way that would not allow the exploitation of these principles in interfering in the domestic affairs of states.

4. Confirmation by the BPC's that relations with all states should be reexamined in light of their stand on the unjust resolutions against the Great Jamahiriyah.

5. Confirmation by the BPC's that a demand should be made to the Security Council and the United Nations Organization for compensation for the harm which resulted from the unjust resolutions against the Great Jamahiriyah. Similarly, a demand should be made to the Security Council that those who committed the imperialist-Atlantic crime against the Great Jamahiriyah in 1986 be brought to trial in Libyan Arab courts.

6. The General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation should undertake to discuss the phenomenon of encroachment on the rights of others with the Arab League, the Organization of African Unity, the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic Conference Organization, and UN bodies, and should endeavor to enhance the role of the Nonaligned Movement.

7. The BPC's stress that permanent relations should be between peoples and not between governments.

8. The BPC's stress that they are rallying all their capabilities to confront challenge with challenge.

9. Work should be undertaken to put an end to weapons of mass destruction.

10. Importance should be attached to the Great Jamahiriyah's external media and the popular bureaus abroad should be obliged to hold seminars, lectures, and exhibitions to make clear the crimes and terrorist acts which were committed against the people of the Jamahiriyah and to expose the dimensions of American and imperialist policy, which is hostile to the Arabs and the Muslims.

11. It is stressed that Libyan Arab laws and non-violation of them must be respected and that the freedom and honor of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah are their legitimate right. [passage omitted]

Third: Review of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation's report.

The BPC's have examined the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation's report which dealt with people's bureaus and missions abroad. They have decided the following:

1. The people's bureaus should be bolstered with human and material resources in order to allow them to play their role and perform their duties.

2. Committed and qualified people who have the ability to work abroad should be chosen from those who have been elected by the people's congresses and the employment of foreigners in people's bureaus abroad should be regulated.

3. The General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation should continue its

efforts with international and regional organizations in order to explain the Jamahiriya's causes at their meetings and assemblies.

4. The necessary service should be provided to all Libyan Arabs abroad and particular attention should be paid to those who are there to study or to obtain medical treatment.

5. The Jamahiriya's financial obligation to all international organizations should be settled.

6. The Jamahiriya should deal with foreign countries in accordance with their stances and implement the principle of reciprocity.

7. The General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation should be bolstered in order to allow it to shoulder its duties.

8. All imperialist schemes which are aiming at controlling the world should be confronted.

9. The BPC's assert the need to implement their previous decisions on the necessity of collecting debts owed by foreign countries; of seeking reparations for damages suffered by the Libyan Arab people during the Italian occupation; and of finding out the fate of Libyans who were deported to the Italian islands [in the 1920's].

10. Cognizance should be taken of the observations made in the report of the General People's Committee for Control and Popular Follow-up.

11. The people's bureaus abroad should be compelled to meet their budget deadlines.

12. The Ouzou issue should be followed up at the International Court of Justice.

13. The BPC's express appreciation for the stances taken by international, regional, and popular organizations which stood by the side of the Great Jamahiriya in its confrontation with the fabricated campaign by imperialist powers.

14. Control over the people's bureaus' decision to furnish visas for foreigners should be tightened.

15. The BPC's see a need to create political, economic, and cultural ties with the rest of the world in a beneficial manner and to explain the Jamahiriya's policies.

16. There should be coordination between the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation and syndicates and unions when it comes to foreign relations.

17. Muslim peoples and people of the Third World should be supported and relations with them in all spheres bolstered, in line with the common struggle against imperialism and international Zionism.

Fourth: The report of the General People's Committee for Unity.

The BPC's examined the report of the General People's Committee for Unity and decided the following:

1. The leading role being played by the brother leader of the revolution to realize Arab unity should be stressed.

2. More efforts should be exerted to bring the date of Arab unity nearer, to focus upon the Arab Maghreb Union, to implement agreements signed in this respect,

and to continue contacts with other Arab unionist bodies in order to clear the atmosphere and resolve current dispute.

3. Difficulties should be overcome and customs duties facilitated between the Jamahiriya, Egypt, Sudan, and the Arab Maghreb Union.

4. Relations with other Arab countries should be reviewed in accordance with stances taken by the latter regarding the mandatory sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council against Jamahiriya.

5. Efforts should be made to work seriously toward the creation of a strong Arab economy, investing money in order to bring about more economic projects in the Arab homeland and set up an Arab common market.

6. The General People's Committee for Unity should be bolstered with necessary human and material resources in order to allow it to play its full role in urging comprehensive Arab unity.

7. The committee should be consolidated in such a way as to allow it to implement the decisions of the BPC's.

8. The brotherhood bureaus should be bolstered and it should be ensured that their employees are fully competent to fulfil their duties; help should be given to enable those elected by the BPC's to be recruited to them.

9. Attention should be paid to cultural centers in the Arab homeland and they should be supported with able and committed elements.

10. Agreements and treaties between the Jamahiriya and other countries should be ratified.

The BPC's examined agreements and treaties between the great Jamahiriya and foreign countries during 1992-93; they ratified them but made the following observations:

1. The implementation of agreed agreements with foreign countries should be continued and reports filed about the progress of their implementation for the attention of the BPC's.

2. The customs tariffs which Libyans and Libyan products have been facing should be lifted, otherwise reciprocal measures will be taken against the rest of the Arab countries.

3. There should be written guarantees for the Libyans' investment abroad, particularly in Egypt, Sudan, and Chad.

That was the last resolution of the fourth article on foreign policy. Thank you.

Fifth: The budgets.

1. Regarding the follow-up of the implementation of the general budget for 1992-93, the BPC's discussed the memorandum on the follow-up of the implementation of the general budget for the financial year 1992-93. They expressed their satisfaction and decided the following:

1. The sum which was spent in excess of the budget should be approved.

2. The three-year program should stress the implementation of the equipment projects which were not implemented during the past annual equipment programs; special attention should be given to the remote areas.
3. Salaries should be paid on time in future.
4. Tax and duty collecting and revenue gathering departments should carry out their duties fully.
5. The monies required within the framework of the three-year program should be made available in order to meet payment for the projects already contracted, especially the production and infrastructure projects.
6. The observations of the General People's Committee for Control and Follow-up should be taken into account.

II. Regarding the preparation of the 1994 general budget, the BPC's discussed the memorandum relating to the 1994 general budget and decided to adopt it and to give permission for the drafting of the Law on the General Budget for the Financial Year 1994 in accordance with the contents of the memorandum, taking the following into account:

1. To keep free education for Libyan citizens.
2. To give priority at time of implementation to the payment of salaries.
3. Not to place any additional financial burdens on salaried and wage-earning citizens with limited income.
4. To take into consideration the monies earmarked for secretariats of the BPC's.
5. To do away with foreign labor in administrative posts and to gradually reduce the number of foreign employees working in the administrative apparatus.
6. To give strategic projects priority in implementation.
7. To take into account the population density and the geographical area when distributing allowances.

1. The three-year program 1994-96. The BPC's discussed a memorandum relating to the three-year program and approved the program according to the contents of the memorandum. They stressed that the following should be taken into account:

1. To work for the completion of the contracted educational and health projects.
2. To concentrate on the strategic projects of an economic nature.
3. To take into account balanced regional development when approving the locations of projects, and in a manner that will not harm the economic worthiness of the production projects.
4. To stress that special attention should be devoted to remote areas.
5. The implementation of the projects shall be done by local companies and partnerships whenever possible.
6. To stress that attention should be given to the maintenance of projects which have already been implemented, especially investment projects.

This is the end of the drafting. [applause] Now we read out the resolution of the conferences regarding the clause of accountability. This will be read out by the brother secretary of BPC affairs:

[BPC Affairs Secretary 'Ali al-Sha'iri] In the name of God. The resolution of the General People's Congress on accountability:

In an endeavor to entrench and consolidate accountability as part of the jamahiri system and as a means for evaluation, effectiveness, and correction of the program of implementing the resolutions of the BPC's, the General People's Congress in its 1994 session questioned:

First, the General People's Committee and the qualitative general people's committees and decided to stress the programming and implementation of the directives of the brother leader of the revolution and enlist them within the plans and programs of action of the General People's Committee and the qualitative general people's committees and to issue detailed resolutions on implementing them.

Second, the congress decided to implement the resolutions of the BPC's which have not been seriously implemented, by way of the implementation action movement of the General People's Committee and the qualitative general people's committees during the coming phase, to follow up the stages of their implementation, and to overcome any difficulties that may confront them.

Third, the congress decided to speed up the treatment of the points of accountability raised by the BPC's and to consider that as being among the priorities of action at the meetings of the General People's Committee and the qualitative general people's committees, and to send reports on this to the BPC's.

Fourth, the congress decided to charge the qualitative general people's committees with the task of making extraordinary and concentrated efforts to deal with and respond to the repeated remarks made by the General People's Committee for Control and People's Follow-up in its reports during the past years.

Fifth: The congress decided to work for the reorganization of the companies owned by the society and to deal with the bottlenecks and material, technical, and procedural difficulties which these companies face, so that these companies can perform their roles and consolidate their effectiveness in economic and social development.

The General People's Congress Secretariat decided the following:

First: To take interest in the secretariats of the BPC's to enable them to perform their roles as they should, and to deal with some of the necessities such as making available the premises, furniture, and stationery they require.

Second: To hold continuous regular meetings with the secretaries of the BPC's so that they can perform the tasks they are entrusted with.

Third: To deal as much as possible with making available to the BPC secretariats the clauses of the agendas in sufficient time prior to the convening of the conferences.

Fourth: To submit for discussion at the meetings with the Secretariat of the General People's Committee some of the topics raised by the BPC secretariats.

The General People's Committee for Control and People's Follow-up decided the following:

To direct the General People's Committee for Control and People's Follow-up to double its control effort and to extensively and more seriously realize the concept of detailed follow-up. This is the end of Accountability. [applause] [passage omitted]

The following have been elected to the secretariat of the General People's Congress [GPC]:

Zanati Muhammad al-Zanati—secretary of the General People's Congress
Abu-Zayid 'Umar Durdah—assistant secretary of the GPC

Salimah Rashid [Mr]—secretary of the GPC for women's affairs

'Ali Sha'iri—secretary of the GPC for BPC affairs

Sa'd Mustafa Mijbir—secretary of the GPC for foreign affairs

Mahmud 'Ali al-Hitki—secretary of the GPC for affairs of the people's committees

'Ali al-Shamikh—secretary of the GPC for the affairs of the unions, syndicates, and professional associations [passage omitted]

Article 1: The GPC has elected the General People's Committee [GPCm] as follows:

Engineer 'Abd-al-Majid al-Mabruk al-Qu'ud, secretary for the GPCm

'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir, secretary for the GPCm for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation

Muftah Muhammad Ku'aybah, secretary for the GPCm for Marine Resources

Muhammad Mahmud al-Hijazi, secretary for the GPCm for Justice and Public Security

Engineer Mubarak 'Abdallah al-Shamikh, secretary for the GPCm for Housing and Utilities

Ahmad Ibrahim, secretary for the GPCm for Information, Culture, and Mass Mobilization

Dr. Fathi Ahmad Bin-Shatwan, secretary for the GPCm for Industry

Engineer Ma'tuq Muhammad Ma'tuq, secretary for the GPCm for Education and Scientific Research

Engineer 'Izz al-Din al-Hinshiri, secretary for the GPCm for Communications and Transport

Jumu'ah al-Mahdi al-Fazzani, secretary for the GPCm for Unity

'Abdallah Salim al-Badri, secretary for the GPCm for Energy

Dr. Muhammad Bayt al-Mal, secretary for the GPCm for Planning and Finance

'Isa 'Abd-al-Kafi al-Sayd, secretary for the GPCm for Agrarian Reform, Land Reclamation, and Animal Resources

Dr. al-Baghdadi 'Ali al-Mahmudi, secretary for the GPCm for Health and Social Security

Dr. Tahir al-Juhaymi, secretary for the GPCm for Economy and Trade

Article Two: This decision is to be implemented as from the date of its issuing and will be published in the official gazette and the various media. Issued by the General People's Congress. [passage omitted]

The GPC has elected Dr. Mahmud Muhyi al-Din Badi as secretary of the GPCm for Control and People's Follow-up. Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi is elected as secretary of the GPCm for the apparatus of the implementation and management of the great man-made river project.

GPC Statement Notes U.S. Actions, 'Persecution'

LD3001185894 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1935 GMT 29 Jan 94

[Statement by Salimah Rashid, assistant secretary for women's affairs, at the General People's Congress in Surt—live]

[Text] The General People's Congress [GPC]—the meeting of the people's congresses, the people's committees, union, syndicates, and professional associations—that is being convened in the town of Surt in the period 10th to the 17th Sha'ban since the death of the Prophet, corresponding to 22-29 January 1994, stresses the attachment of the Libyan Arab people to its right to the legitimate defense of its freedom, honor, choices, and respect for its sovereignty and laws in accordance with the UN Charter, and it stresses its commitment to international charters and the bases that govern relations between states, all of which confirm that disputes should be solved by peaceful means, negotiations, dialogue, and discarding the methods of use of force or the threat to use force.

It rejects the serious trend to which some Western powers have been pursuing, in the coercive use of some of the provisions of the UN Charter and involving the Security Council, in an issue that is not of its concern.

The Libyan Arab people feel the persecution that has been meted on it by Europe and America, a persecution that has historical roots. The campaigns of the crusaders, the Normans, the Spaniards, the Vandals, and other successive campaigns followed by the tyrant Italian colonialism. Those campaigns resulted in thousands of victims, kidnapped and banished people.

While the General People's Congress—the meeting of the people's congresses, people's committees, unions, syndicates, and professional associations—mentions this, it recalls with pain the U.S. aggression, the raids it carried out, and the victims it made among children, women, and old people during a tyrannical, unjust, and unjustified aggression, in addition to harming the integrity of the Libyan Arab soil and its territorial waters, and shooting down aircraft and sinking ships, as well as criminally kidnapping Libyan Arab nationals who were imprisoned in Chad. The United States is directly

responsible for those who were killed, wounded, and those who deviated or were misled.

The Libyan Arab people were expecting apologies from Europe because of their unjust campaigns against it, especially Italy, to expiate its crimes during its occupation of the Libyan Arab lands.

The Libyan Arab people were expecting the United States to apologize for its air raid, aggressions, and violations of the Libyan Arab waters. However, the Libyan Arab people were surprised at the deliberate persistence in pursuing its oppression instead of receiving an apology. This entrenched the feeling of being oppressed among the masses of this steadfast people. This feeling of oppression was exacerbated by the tangible effects and sufferings due to the embargo and siege [as heard] resolutions, and the sanctions unjustly imposed on it, thus causing the death of hundreds of people and the loss of billions in revenue. All this is aimed at having the sons [the two Lockerbie suspects] of the Libyan Arab people handed over, to treat its sovereignty and laws with disdain, without any consideration for international laws and conventions.

While the GPC stresses the spontaneous mass rallying of the Libyan Arab people around its leader in huge and unprecedented popular gatherings, and its strong commitment to the principles of the great al-Fatih [1 September] revolution and its eternal human objectives that call for stressing human rights, it stresses the fact that the masses of the Libyan Arab people have become fully convinced that the governments of the Western countries have obstructed all efforts aimed at reaching a solution to the crisis and arriving at the truth, despite the fact that the Great Socialist People's Arab Libyan Republic has taken enough measures and decisions to implement Security Council Resolution No. 731. This was given a positive response and welcomed within the Security Council itself that barred the way before the intransigent stances of the three Western countries [France, the United States, and Britain] and their deliberate disregard of this positive response.

While it has followed with great anxiety the escalation of the unjust mandatory sanctions against the Libyan Arab people, and while it recalls its previous resolutions and statements on this issue, the GPC stresses once more that the Great Jamahiriyyah will not spare any efforts or means to affirm its eagerness for the implementation of justice and to abide by international law, in the framework of dialogue and understanding, far removed from the language of threat.

The Great Jamahiriyyah was expecting that its initiative would find the response of the concerned parties. However, the governments of the three Western states have continued in the language of threat and provocation in a way that does not serve international peace and security, and does not respect international principles and conventions and states' sovereignty, and does not enable one to reach peaceful solutions that are satisfactory to all parties. This was called for by all international and

regional organizations, particularly the Arab League, the OAU, ICO [Islamic Conference Organization], the AMU [Arab Maghreb Union], the nonaligned countries, parties, popular organizations, and unions of the world. All these have stressed their consideration for the stance of the Great Jamahiriyyah and the initiatives it has put forward in order to solve the crisis peacefully.

While it expresses its deep regret for and indignation at the UN Security Council's submission to the pressures of the three Western states—who have adopted the method of force, warning, threat, and blockade as the only means in its dealings with the Great Jamahiriyyah, aimed at making this conflict last longer in order to cause the biggest damages to the Libyan Arab people and at achieving other aims that have no relation with the issue of the dispute—the GPC clearly highlights the use of a double-standard policy when implementing international resolutions.

The GPC has decided to send Libyan Arab delegations to various world states in order to explain the dimensions of the sequence of aggression against Libya and its continuation for centuries, as well as the deep feelings of oppression that Libyans have. The GPC draws the attention of the international community to what follows:

First: The enormity of the damages caused to the Libyan Arab people as a result of the implementation of the UN Security Council's resolutions that have encompassed all sectors and caused the deaths of hundreds of innocents, and these damages have also affected neighboring and other states.

Second: The seriousness of the state of international relations, as this crisis has confirmed, that whenever Britain, the United States, and France agreed on some matter, they are able to impose it on the international community that bears the consequences of material and human losses resulting from this.

Third: The seriousness of the stage lived by the peoples of the world amidst the international changes with their negative effects on the Third World and small states. These changes contain within themselves possibilities that are carried through under various slogans, the most dangerous of which are what are called: land for peace, the elimination of the Palestinian issue, and other liberation causes. This constitutes a dangerous precedent that is in contradiction of the UN Charter and all international principles, laws, and conventions that forbid and consider the occupation of others' land by force as a crime.

A just, comprehensive, and durable solution of the Palestinian issue can only be achieved by returning all the 7 million Palestinian people to their land and the setting up of a democratic Palestinian State, in which Palestinians and Jews born in Palestine would coexist, ending the state of the Zionist entity and removing its mass destruction weapons.

The GPC reiterates the Libyan Arab people's faith and commitment to the unity of the Arab nation in order that the latter will possess the constituents of power and development. The GPC stresses the Libyan Arab people's commitment to the Arab League Charter and the importance of enforcing and developing its role, in order that this will be the instrument of Arab joint action and bring nearer the day of comprehensive Arab unity.

The GPC stresses its condemnation of the violations of the Arab League Charter and resolutions, particularly the resolution of Arab boycott of Zionist aggression. The GPC stresses that the changes in our world today, and the frustration and bitterness they cause, are scientific proof of the triumph of people's revolution and the green Jamahiri thought at international level in response to the downfall, decline, injustice, grief, oppression, and tyranny from which mankind suffers, as the great al-Fatih revolution has become a new reading of history and modern times, and a help not only for the Arab nation alone but for mankind as a whole.

By the General People's Congress, on 17 Sha'ban 1403 after the Prophet's demise, corresponding to 29 January 1994.

Envoy to UN Interviewed on Lockerbie, Other Issues

PM3101143994 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 28 Jan 94 p 4

[Interview with Ambassador to United Nations 'Ali al-Hudayri by Ashraf al-Faqiyy in Surt; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Faqiyy] At the Arab League Council's 98th session the Arab states decided not to sign the Paris agreement banning chemical weapons. But the Arab position changed a great deal after most states signed the agreement. How can this be explained?

[Al-Hudayri] The Arab states were subjected to pressures from Western states, especially the United States, to force them to join the agreement banning chemical and biological weapons. The agreed Arab position was to sign the agreement provided so-called "Israel" joins the agreement banning nuclear weapons. Because it is unimaginable that the Arab states would sign the agreement on chemical weapons while an entity in the region has mass-destruction weapons.

[Al-Faqiyy] How do you explain the UN absence from the peace process in the Middle East, especially as the resolutions adopted by the Security Council are the basis of the peace process?

[Al-Hudayri] Regrettably, Arab weakness and the lack of a real vision enabling the Arabs to confront Western and Zionist pressures have enabled the Western side to achieve victories, especially in the so-called "Declaration of Principles agreement," which was intended to approve the Gaza-Jericho agreement, which does not achieve peace. The problem has never been Gaza or

Jericho. The problem lies basically in the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories, the settlements, and the annihilation campaign to which the Arab people in the occupied territories are exposed. As for so-called Gaza-Jericho agreement, it is no more than throwing dust in the eyes.

How can peace be established while all current talks are obstructed by major disagreements among the negotiators over the crossing points and controlling them, and while these talks also do not lead to a sovereign, independent Palestinian state? What is happening is a Western joke at the Arabs' expense. Some naive people have accepted these arrangements for other reasons which I cannot reveal.

What the Arab side accepted in the Gaza-Jericho agreement is much less than what had originally been on offer. And I am certain that if the Arab peoples realize the truth of the matter, they will have a correct view that will be able to change the course. All Arab states, including Libya, are for peace. But Libya believes that peace should be based on justice and the recovering of the Palestinian and Arab people's legitimate rights in the Golan, the West Bank, and Lebanon.

[Al-Faqiyy] Do you have reservations about the Arab states' positions on the implementation of Security Council resolutions on Libya since the Lockerbie crisis began?

[Al-Hudayri] The pretext mentioned by some Arab states is compliance with so-called international legitimacy, which has been misused in an illegitimate manner. Despite the harm inflicted on Arab interests and the Security Council resolution's failure to take account of internal law, the Arab states tend always to find the justification in that they do not want to violate international legitimacy. Libya is completely aware of the pressures to which the Arab states are exposed. They find themselves in a weak position, and so cannot resist or refuse to comply. The recent Security Council resolution, that is Resolution 883, is considered interference in the Arab states' internal affairs. Some Arab states have realized that, and attempts are being made to stop encroachment on Arab sovereignty.

[Al-Faqiyy] What is your opinion of French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe's saying that Libya is talking a lot but offering nothing tangible in reality regarding the Lockerbie crisis?

[Al-Hudayri] Libya has always expressed its intention of resolving the Lockerbie issue, especially as the Libyan people are the one harmed most as a result of the sanctions imposed since 15 April 1992. It is not in Libya's interests for these sanctions to continue. We are eager to solve this problem as soon as possible. We have offered numerous positive solutions which, had they been accepted by the United States, Britain, and France, would have helped to secure a solution. But lack of desire on the Western states' part prevented that. If they were serious, they would have accepted some of the proposals

made by Libya, which are based on respect for international legitimacy and Libyan sovereignty, demand a fair trial for the suspects, and refuse to allow the Libyan people to stand trial for no crime they have committed.

[Al-Faqiyy] What new can Libya offer to find a solution?

[Al-Hudayri] Despite the clear injustice to which the Libyan people are exposed as a result of the embargo imposed on them, we will try with the three Western states to bring an end to this case. We are convinced that they do not want a solution, as they have turned the Lockerbie case into a political issue.

[Al-Faqiyy] Do you believe that the Lockerbie case is intended to change the entire Libyan regime?

[Al-Hudayri] The Libyan regime cannot be destroyed, because it is not based on one or two figures who can be destroyed and that would be the end of it. To do that, the Libyan people have to be destroyed. It is the Libyan people alone who are entitled to retain or replace the regime.

[Al-Faqiyy] Is there any link between former Libyan Foreign Minister Mansur al-Kikhya's disappearance in Cairo and the Lockerbie case?

[Al-Hudayri] I have nothing to say in that connection.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Vows To Protect Homeland Against Rebels

EA3101195594 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Text] Port Sudan, 31 Jan (SUNA)—The president of the republic, Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, has said that the government will not be indifferent toward Garang, who has rejected peace and would not heed the voice of reason and come to negotiations. He pointed out that the Armed Forces and the People's Defense Forces were capable of protecting the homeland and deterring those who intended to cause it harm.

He said this yesterday when addressing a big rally at Port Sudan, Eastern State, on the occasion marking the promotion of 5,000 recruits of the People's Defense Force. He affirmed that the revolution from the outset had declared that it would surrender power to the people. It had now undertaken to redivide the states, following acceptance by the states' salvation committees, representatives of the governorates and local councils in a conference recently held in Khartoum on the basis of a new vision. Al-Bashir saluted the people of the Red Sea area for their bold stand and unity.

Assembly Approves Bill on Redivision of States

EA0102164594 Khartoum SUNA in English 0929 GMT 01 Feb 94

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Feb (SUNA)—The Transitional National Assembly (TNA), chaired by Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, Monday approved the bill on the tenth constitutional decree on the states' redivision for 1994 at the second reading stage.

The decree, which stipulates increasing the number of states in the Sudan to 26 states, was approved by TNA at the second reading stage in accordance with a report presented to the assembly by the legal affairs and decentralization committees.

A number of MPs spoke at the session, expressing their unanimous support for the decree, which they affirm has come to fulfill the desires of the Sudanese masses.

Government Reaffirms Commitment To Aid South

EA0102171594 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1315 GMT 01 Feb 94

[Text] Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, minister of social planning, has reaffirmed the Sudanese Government's commitment to deliver relief to those affected in the south of the country. His Excellency added while addressing the Foreign Ministry forum today that the government has been carrying out this humanitarian duty since the agreement was reached with the United Nations on organizing Operation Lifeline. He pointed out that the government had sent a delegation to Nairobi to discuss the organization of safe corridors with the rebel movement in order to deliver relief to the needy in their areas. Ali Osman Mohamed Taha said the rebel movement refused to open the roads in the areas which it controls.

He added that in confirmation of its good intentions to stop the war and achieve a lasting peace, the government had responded to the request of Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi to hold a meeting composed of a delegation from the government with the rebel Garang as a preliminary step for new negotiations. However, the rebel Garang (?reneged on his promise) [words indistinct] which proves his lack of seriousness in the quest for peace. He pointed out that government had fulfilled all its commitments and is striving to solve the problem. Its contacts and efforts are also still continuing and are open to those who are eager to move the peace process forward which has become the will of all the Sudanese people.

Al-Bashir Opens Oself Harbor on Red Sea

EA0102131294 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, will attend the final session of the first nomads' conference at Atbara River today, in line with his current tour of Eastern State. Yesterday,

His Excellency declared open Oseif harbor, on the Red Sea. In a speech to a rally there he said the revolution's interest in the area had been confirmed by the creation of the Governorate of Hala'ib in view of its richness in natural resources, which require the use of energies and capabilities to yield the required development of the area. He added that the area had suffered from neglect during past regimes, which had affected its progress. [passage omitted]

2d Phase of Repatriation of Ethiopian Refugees Set

EA0102172394 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1315 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Retired Brigadier Abdulrahman Sirr al-Khatim, minister of state for refugee affairs, has stated that preparations have been completed by Sudan to implement the second phase of a voluntary return of Ethiopian refugees once the Ethiopian side has given the go-ahead in accordance with the agreement between the two countries. His Excellency added that the voluntary

return will be implemented in coordination and cooperation with the UN High Commission for Refugees within the framework of the basic agreement signed between Sudan, Ethiopia and the UN High Commission for Refugees.

In addition, retired Brig. Sirr al-Khatim said that he discussed with the Eritrean commissioner of refugees, during his visit to Khartoum recently, the question of a voluntary return of Eritrean refugees. The Eritrean side reviewed the position of contributions from the international community towards the program of resettling Eritrean refugees returning from Sudan. He pointed out that there are obstacles facing the implementation of the program, such as the lack of necessary funds. The minister of state for refugee affairs said he affirmed Sudan's commitment to international agreements that regulate the seeking of refugee status.

On the issue of children detained by the rebel movement, His Excellency said the committee responsible has been reformed and it will put forward an action plan in the near future. He noted that the committee includes all the relevant organs.

Kuwait

Afghan Envoy Arrives With Message for Amir

LD2901162694 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1340 GMT
29 Jan 94

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Jan, KUNA—Muhammad Sediq Jakari, the Afghan president's envoy and the delegation accompanying him, arrived here today in order to convey a message from President Borhanoddin Rabbani for Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the State of Kuwait.

'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dakhil, the Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, welcomed him at the airport.

Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister Receives Yemeni Ambassador

LD0102162794 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1446 GMT
1 Feb 94

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Feb (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense minister, and minister of aviation, received Ghalib 'Ali Jamil, the Yemeni ambassador to the kingdom, at his palace this afternoon.

Economic Commission With Canada Concludes Meeting

LD3101202794 Riyadh SPA in English 1927 GMT
31 Jan 94

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 31, SPA—The joint Saudi-Canadian Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation concluded here today its meetings under the co-chairmanship of Saudi Acting Foreign Under Secretary for Economic and Cultural Affairs Mohammad Mamoun Kurdi and the Canadian Foreign Under Secretary for International Trade Allen Kilpatrick.

Addressing the final session, Kurdi expressed thanks and appreciation for the spirit of cordiality and cooperation which prevailed during the commission's deliberations.

He stressed that the joint goal of the Saudi and Canadian sides is to boost bilateral cooperation and expressed hope that the outcome of the meetings would contribute to realizing more progress for the two countries.

Kilpatrick praised Saudi-Canadian trade relations and pointed to the increase of joint ventures and investments.

UAE

Government Lifts Boycott of South Africa

NC3001212694 Paris AFP in English 2101 GMT
30 Jan 94

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Jan 30 (AFP)—The United Arab Emirates has formally lifted a long-standing boycott of

South Africa, opening the door for Pretoria to grab a bigger share of the Middle East market, UAE officials said Sunday.

The federal cabinet decided to end the 19-year-old ban and has instructed public and private institutions that obstacles no longer existed for dealing with South Africa, they said.

Diplomats said the cabinet decision to end the boycott would pave the way for establishment of diplomatic ties between the UAE and South Africa.

The Dubai-based daily AL-BAYAN said the cabinet decision cancelled a 1975 federal law banning any form of dealing with South Africa because of its former system of apartheid.

The decision coincides with Pretoria's attempts to enter the Gulf market, which is dominated by Japan, western countries and other industrial powers.

South Africa's drive has already produced results. Its trade with the UAE surged to around 150 million dirhams (40.8 million dollars) in 1993 from less than 20 million dirhams (5.4 million dollars) in 1992.

Officials from both sides expect trade to grow steadily in coming years given their large business potential.

"South Africa enjoys great economic and trade potentials," the director of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mutaywi, said after returning Saturday from a business trip to Johannesburg.

He said South Africa planned another major trade exhibition in Dubai in May following the success of its first Middle East fair in 1992.

Officials said South Africa was still planning to open a commercial office in the United Arab Emirate of Dubai to boost exports to Iran and the GCC states of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE.

South Africa is also aiming at the region's growing arms market and has participated in two international defence shows in the UAE.

Yemen

Abu-Shawarib To Go to Amman for Signing Ceremony

JN0102131294 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
1 Feb 94 p 30

[By Salih al-Qallab]

[Excerpt] Sanaa—Brigadier General Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, the Yemeni deputy prime minister and chairman of the committee preparing for a reconciliation session between President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid, has announced that, barring unforeseen difficulties, he will travel to Amman next Thursday to prepare for the signing of the document of

understanding initiated by leaders of the country's parties and independent figures in Aden 18 January.

Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, a key figure in the national dialogue that spawned the document of understanding to be signed by the Yemeni president and his deputy in Amman next week, indicated that agreement has been reached as to which local, Arab, and other parties will be invited to attend the signing ceremonies.

Since the accord was initiated, the General People's Congress [GPC] and the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] have differed over which Arab and other states to invite for the event.

While the YSP wants Britain, France, the United States, Eritrea, Canada, and China to be present along with Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, and the Arab League, the GPC prefers a restricted attendance.

Abu-Shawarib said that agreement has been reached to invite five Yemeni figures from the three ruling coalition partners: the GPC, the YSP, and the Reform Party, a representative from each of the parties that sat on the dialogue committee, including the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party, al-Haqq Party, and the Yemeni Reform Grouping, plus a limited number of independents. [passage omitted]

Parties Said Preparing for Separation, Military Clash

NCU02211494 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 29 Jan 94
p 6

[Report by Kamal Jaballah in Sanaa]

[Text] A ranking Yemeni Government official has announced that the General People's Congress [GPC] set the return of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice president and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], and Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-Attas to Sanaa to assume their duties as a condition for signing the "Pledge and Accord" document outside Yemen.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said that if the document is not signed before the month of Ramadan [approximately 10 February] it will mean that the YSP is buying more time to prepare for separation. In his statement to AL-AHRAM, the official expected a violent military confrontation between the two sides if the crisis is not resolved. He noted that YSP media are now paving the way for separation.

The official's statement coincided with growing speculation by politicians and observers in Sanaa that the antagonist political forces are preparing to divide Yemen

once again into two parts and perhaps more, as Hadhramaut is expected to secede from the southern part. Informed Yemeni sources that asked to remain anonymous said separation is now a matter of time and of who will bear the responsibility before history and the Yemeni people.

The sources said: The two poles of government, the GPC and the YSP, are accusing each other not only of escalating the crisis but of actually preparing for military confrontation if separation intentions come true.

The sources said that before inaugurating the Hadhramaut oil project, the YSP raised the cost of the project by \$300 million without the Council of Ministers or the Presidential Council knowing about it. The additional money, according to the sources, was used to buy weapons and ammunition in preparation for the possible confrontation. For its part, the YSP accused the GPC of buying some \$20 million worth of weapons and ammunition from Romania without the knowledge of the prime minister, who belongs to the YSP.

Al-Attas: State 'Collaborating With Terrorists'

NC0202070194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT
1 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)—Yemeni Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-Attas has revealed wide differences among the parties competing for authority in his country. He accused the political powers involved in the ruling process of adopting a harsh, centralized, and backward approach to running the country's affairs. He said this confirms that there is no desire to unify institutions, but rather to maintain the status quo.

In an interview with AL-AHRAM to be published on 2 February, al-Attas said he rejected an offer by Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to join the General People's Congress to avoid further division within the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Al-Attas affirmed that there are military movements in the two sections of Yemen, particularly after the suspension of all projects to rebuild, restructure, and unite the Armed Forces since the declaration of unity on 22 May.

The Yemeni prime minister accused the state of collaborating with terrorists to strike at rival political forces in the local arena. He noted that the terrorist elements in Yemen are being used in operations at home and abroad.

Asked when he would return to Sanaa, al-Attas said: Soon, once we reach full agreement on the security arrangements and the legal and constitutional guarantees that aim to rearrange affairs and establish peace and stability in Yemen.

Official Criticizes Clinton Policy, Sanctions*JN0102185594 Paris Radio Monte Carlo, Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Text] In Baghdad, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, has accused U.S. President Clinton of seeking to extend the anti-Iraq embargo and criticized his conditions for reducing international sanctions. Hammudi, who is also a member of the Iraqi Ba'ath Party's Foreign Relations Committee, described Clinton's message as one of blackmail.

This is the first Iraqi official reaction to Clinton's message to Congress in which he expressed his fears that the Iraqi authorities might rebuild Iraq's mass destruction arsenal. Clinton demanded a long period of monitoring on Iraq's military establishments before any reduction of the sanctions is effected.

BABIL Reacts to Clinton's Report to Congress*JN0202105494 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Feb (INA)—The newspaper BABIL says that Clinton's efforts to perpetuate the unfair embargo imposed on Iraq, advancing hollow arguments and flimsy pretexts that are not supported by any legal grounds, reflect his own bankruptcy, as well as his violation of the international community's will and laws.

In an article published today, the paper adds: Iraq has implemented Section C of Resolution 687, as well as Resolution 715 on future monitoring. This requires the immediate lifting of the oil embargo, as well as an all-out lifting of the sanctions.

The paper goes on to say: There are no provisions in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions that speak of a "probation period." As for waffler Clinton's talk about democracy and human rights, this is foolish talk.

BABIL says: At a time when well-intentioned parties all over the world have continued to make statements on the need to lift the embargo, and when the positions of most permanent members of the UN Security Council on the embargo have undergone positive changes, Clinton, in his report to the Congress, reveals himself as a heretic.

The paper adds: Clinton professes to be a staunch defender of civilized conduct at a time when he continues to slay elderly people, children, and women in Somalia. It was Clinton who ordered the missile attack on innocent civilians in Baghdad, causing the death of men and children on the night of 26-27 June 1993, when there were no hostilities between Iraq and the United States.

The paper concludes by saying: Iraq's steadfastness, the determination of leader President Saddam Husayn, and

the enhancement of the march of construction and jihad will remain the means to end the embargo, whether Clinton likes it or not.

Paper Wary of U.S. Pressure on UN for Sanctions*JN0102181394 Baghdad INA in English 1555 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 1, INA—THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER said today that the UN Special Commission expert Charles Duelfer, American, recently concluded a short visit to Iraq after holding discussions with the Iraqi officials on the long-term monitoring of Iraq's weapons. Duelfer also discussed with the Iraqis the visit of UN Sanctions Commission UNSCOM chief Rolf Ekeus to Iraq which is expected to start on February 2.

A paper editorial added, however, the main job of Duelfer in Baghdad was to discuss with Iraqi counterparts a plan set by UNSCOM to implement the monitoring system of Iraq's weapons.

Duelfer told reporters in Baghdad shortly before his departure that his talks with the Iraqi side were significant and many points were clarified.

The editorial further said, Duelfer wanted to tell reporters that "there is still more to be done", he had made it clear that the monitoring system needs more time, even more than six months, the period set by Ekeus six months ago.

But this "more to be done" is not by Iraq, but the UNSCOM. Iraq has accepted UN Security Council Resolution 715 which is based on the monitoring system. The time is, therefore, needed by the UN body to implement the technicalities of its resolution and Iraq has expressed its readiness to provide help and this was stressed by Duelfer.

The editorial said before the arrival of Duelfer, Rolf Ekeus said in a press interview that monitoring would take a year to prove its efficiency. Ekeus, however, had said before that such a system needs six months to be fixed. Now, he extends that to one year which means the Security Council would need another year to think of lifting the trade sanctions on Iraq or not.

However, the Security Council resolutions state that if Iraq agrees to the monitoring system, the Security Council should lift the trade sanctions even partially.

It is quiet clear from the statements made by the various UN officials that the U.S. Administration is dictating the Security Council what to do in order to prolong the trade sanctions. This is quiet clear through the recent every two-month UN-official discussions held by the Security Council members on the trade sanctions on Iraq. The U.S. and British representatives' stands were rather firm to prolong the sanctions while those of France, Russia and China are rather in favour of lifting them.

Any observer would see clearly how the U.S. is directly influencing the UN and its organisations. When the

six-month period which was earlier given to Iraq to assess its position towards the implementation of resolution 715 becomes nearer, the U.S. extends the period to one year and Ekeus and his aides have got the message and they started talking about the year time and there is more to be done and so on.

We hope that this time Ekeus would come to Iraq carrying UNSCOM's and not U.S. demands because this would only complicate the situation, the editorial concluded.

UN's Ekeus Arrives in Baghdad To Resume Talks
*JN0202122994 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT
2 Feb 94*

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Feb (INA)—Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN Special Commission, arrived in Baghdad today at the head of a delegation to resume the talks which were held in Baghdad and New York last July, September, and October. The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learned that Ekeus will begin his talks with the Iraqi side this evening.

Explosion Near Defense Ministry Wounds 2 Guards

NC0202154894 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] An explosive charge went off outside the Defense Ministry building in Baghdad last week. The explosion of the device that was hidden in a garbage container wounded two guards and caused material damage.

Reporting this, our sources said that a meeting of senior military officials of tyrant Saddam's regime was scheduled for that day, but the explosion caused chaos and forced the officials to postpone the meeting. No party has claimed responsibility but reports indicate that the explosion is part of some settling of accounts among Ba'thist regime members.

Thai Rice Shipment Arrives at Umm Qasr Port
JN2901210994 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Jan 94

[Text] A Maltese ship laden with large quantities of rice from Thailand bound for Iraq, imported by the Trade Ministry, docked at the Umm Qasr port this afternoon. A ceremony was held at the port, during which the population of the Umm Qasr subdistrict and workers at the port sang of their love for leader President Saddam Husayn and to express their happiness with the arrival of this ship, which is carrying food supplies and contributing to breaking the unjust blockade.

It is noteworthy that this is the third ship that has entered the Umm Qasr port since the unjust blockade was imposed on Iraq.

Saddam Views as Baghdad Mayor, Governors Sworn In

JN3001163994 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Jan 94

[Text] Tahir Muhammad Hassan has been sworn in before leader President Saddam Husayn upon assuming his duties as mayor of Baghdad.

Ghazi Ahmad Khattab, Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Wahid Shannan Al Ribat, and Mani 'Abd-Rashid were also sworn in before leader President Saddam Husayn upon assuming their duties as governors of Salah al-Din, Ninawa, and al-Anbar Governorates respectively.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended by Hatim Hamdan al-Azzawi, head of the Presidential Office, and Wathan Ibrahim al-Hasan, the minister of interior.

Furnace-Coating Thermal Cement Successfully Produced

*JN0102171494 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT
1 Feb 94*

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 1, INA—The Iraqi Ministry of Industry and Minerals cadre have succeeded in producing for the first time thermal cement used on coating the inner sides of the furnaces of bricks, phosphates and glass.

The ministry sources said production of this type of cement would contribute to saving some two million dinars and meet the country needs of this cement used in several projects in the country.

Kurdish Radio Reports Opposition INC Meeting

JN0102202194 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] In the presence of the members of the Presidential Council of the unified Iraqi National Congress (INC), brother struggler Mas'ud Barzani, His Eminence Dr Muhammad Bahr al-Ulum, and Mr. Hasan Mustafa al-Naqib, the INC Executive Council held its first ordinary meeting at the INC hall this morning, Tuesday, 1 February 1994.

The meeting was attended by Executive Council Chairman Dr. Ahmad al-Jalabi, Vice Chairman Hani al-Fakiki, and Executive Council members 'Izzat al-Shahbandar, 'Aziz 'Alyan, Dr. Munaffar Arslan, Shaykh Muhammad Muhammad 'Ali, Latif Rashid, Muhsin Diza'i, Hushayr Zihari, Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman, Sami 'Azarah al-Ma'jun, 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Safi, Nizar Haydar, and Riyadh al-Yawar.

The meeting began by discussing the political situation in Iraq, the region, and the world with an analysis of recent events, such as the international steps to help the Iraqi people and the democratic experiment in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The meeting reviewed the INC's previous decisions and the activities of its bodies in addition to other issues related to the INC's internal organization and the development of its departments.

The INC meetings will continue.

Rabin: Al-Assad More Dependable Than 'Arafat

TA0202101194 Tel Aviv YED'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 2 Feb 94 pp 1, 19

[Report by Nahum Barnea's]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last night in a meeting with writers and poets at his home, that he can depend more on President al-Assad's word than Yasser 'Arafat's.

"'Arafat is under pressure from all sides. He says something and then two weeks later cannot deliver what he promises. He does not represent all the Palestinians. Still, he is our only partner on the Palestinian side and the negotiations with him will continue. There is no going back." [passage omitted]

Rabin said he reached the conclusion that al-Assad is serious about his contacts with Israel when Israeli intelligence learned that al-Assad had turned down a request by the Iranian ambassador to meet with him prior to the Syrian leader's summit meeting with Clinton in Geneva. Rabin reached the conclusion that Syria has a partnership with Iran on the Iraqi issue, but that it decided to sever the partnership in relation to Israel.

"If al-Assad were to do one-third of what al-Sadat did, there would be no problems in the peace process with Syria," Rabin said. [passage omitted]

Rabin also said that because of the danger of Iran and Islamic fundamentalism, peace must be reached between Israel and all the pro-American states in the region. "I hope that al-Assad now understands that the path to rapprochement with the U.S. must go through Israel."

He spoke with concern about the regime in Egypt. "The regime in Syria is more stable than the one in Egypt. Even if al-Assad is assassinated the regime will remain stable. On the other hand, the regime in Egypt is the least stable in the region and is under the risk of an Islamic takeover."

The meeting lasted over three hours and was held in a pleasant atmosphere and with a lot of empathy displayed for the prime minister.

Peres on Accord With PLO, Talks With Syria

NC0102200594 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by MBC correspondent 'Aziz Fahmi in Washington; date not given—recorded; Peres' remarks in English translated into Arabic by interviewer]

[Text] [Peres] I believe that we have overcome some important problems but we still face some dealing with substance and wording. We will exert exceptional efforts to complete the talks, but I do not wish to set dates because negotiations may take a day, a week, or even a month longer than a fixed date. This is not because of a

lack of goodwill or pessimism, but experience has taught us that some issues that we imagine to be unimportant may emerge suddenly and cause a problem that will need long hours of negotiations to resolve.

[Fahmi] Why does Israel insist on the need for the presence of Israeli security officers at the crossings to search travelers?

[Peres] There are two basic reasons. Although I believe that 'Arafat has issued orders to PLO members to halt acts of violence and terrorism, there are other organizations that are still carrying out such acts. Israel has to engage in negotiations simultaneously as it faces violence and terrorism.

We told 'Arafat that as long as this situation persists we will be strict on security issues because when a traveler crosses to Gaza and Jericho, he enters not only these two cities but also Israel and he has the freedom to travel in it. Therefore, we are strict in negotiations concerning security issues.

We suggested to 'Arafat that the security arrangements be on a temporary basis and that if acts of violence stop, the arrangements we have agreed upon may be revised.

[Fahmi] The Syrians still insist on your acceptance of a complete withdrawal before they define the meaning of a complete peace. Are we still in the same situation after the Geneva summit?

[Peres] This does not make sense but the Syrians know our stance on the withdrawal. They must say what they mean by a complete peace. They must prove their willingness to accept security arrangements that fulfill the Israeli and Syrian security requirements.

[Fahmi] Are there secret channels for negotiations between Syria and Israel and what are the means to achieve progress in those negotiations?

[Peres] There are no channels for negotiations with Syria except the Washington negotiations. However, we need to conduct negotiations on a higher level of representation because new proposals can be put forth. The continuation of negotiations only at the official level means that the negotiators will keep repeating their familiar stances.

Army Officials Said To Support Dava Document

TA0202120094 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Feb 94 p A2

[Report by Aluf Ben]

[Excerpt] Senior defense sources, headed by Chief of Staff Elad Barak, told Yitzhak Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, that although they have "minor and marginal" observations about the Document of understandings worked out Sunday [30 January] in Dava, they will support the document if PLO Chairman Yasser 'Arafat signs it, senior political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday.

The sources said that "if 'Arafat would have signed the document first, Rabin would have accepted it." The sources said that during the Davos meeting, there was ongoing telephone and facsimile contacts between Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and the prime minister, as well as between Major General 'Uzi Dayan, a member of the Israeli delegation, and the military top brass.

Ongoing consultations were also held between Rabin, Baraq, Deputy Chief of Staff Amnon Shahaq, head of intelligence Uri Sagi, and the Shin Bet chief. They transmitted their comments to Davos by facsimile. "The Army top brass had many observations about the initial drafts presented to the Palestinian delegation," the political sources said, "but they support the final document. They said that they have comments on several minor and noncritical points, but in principle they feel that the PLO accepted the Israeli position."

In deliberations held prior to the foreign minister's departure for Davos, in which the prime minister and the defense team participated, the Army brass firmly opposed for security reasons some of the proposals raised by Peres. They demanded that Israel keep full control of the roads to the Gaza Strip settlements and that it be made clear that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will continue to move along the traffic axes termed "safe corridors" between Jericho and the Allenby Bridge, al-Nabi Musa, and the Dead Sea. [passage omitted]

Shahal Opens Civil Guard Station in Territories

TA3101115694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Excerpt] Police Minister Moshe Shahal this morning opened a Civil Guard station at Ma'ale Adumim, the first in the territories. Speaking at the opening ceremony, he promised that the Civil Guard units will be limited to patrolling within the settlement itself. The police minister also said that five other Civil Guard stations will be opened shortly in the territories. Reporter Mark Weiss asked Minister Shahal about the significance of the opening:

[Begin recording] [Shahal] A decision has been taken about a year ago, and the previous government decided to implement the idea of having this guard, like in any other parts in Israel. I think that the significance is that we are looking upon Ma'ale Adumim as any other town, and we rely on the citizens of this town to be responsible for their security, to help the police force. I think this is the political significance of the decision.

[Weiss] Do you believe this new Civil Guard will be able to cooperate with the Palestinian police force to be set up under autonomy?

[Shahal] Well, I think that there will be a need of cooperation. If the Palestinian police force cares for the security, to deal with and to prevent crime, I think that it will be necessary to cooperate on all levels, and we

hope that this is going to happen. Any professional police force need this kind of cooperation. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Taxes To Be Collected for Palestinian Authority

TA0202071294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] The Palestinian authority in the Gaza Strip and Jericho will receive \$170 million annually from taxes collected by Israeli Government bodies. Ya'ir Fidel, our economic correspondent in Tel Aviv, was apprised of this fact by a business source connected to the political process. This sum will furnish one-third of the Palestinian authority's budget. The source of the money will be port taxes, fuel surcharges, other taxes, and national insurance dues, which will be collected for the Palestinians by Israel.

Beilin Criticizes Europe's Stand on Iran, Iraq

TA0102110794 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Feb 94 p A5

[Report by Lili Galili]

[Text] Addressing a delegation of 57 French parliamentarians, Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin sharply criticized the policy of the European countries toward Iran and Iraq and their refusal to support Israel's efforts to get accepted as a member of the UN's "West European and Others" bloc at a time when a peace process is under way.

Beilin explained that such membership would enable Israel to run for selected UN positions and would give all Israelis the feeling that a new era is dawning as a result of a process which naturally arouses fear in them. The deputy minister emphasized that France "played a leading role in formulating the negative response to Israel's request." The meeting with the parliamentarians, who represent France's three major parties, was attended by French Ambassador Jean Louis Lucet. On their second day in Israel, the French visitors met with President 'Ezer Weizman and toured the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

In a meeting at the Holiday Inn in Jerusalem, Beilin argued that the Europeans are actually not prepared to take part in the peace process and that when he approached the European foreign ministers in the late 1980's, they referred him to the United States. According to him, these countries still do not show any willingness to become involved today. Contrary to the United States, Norway, or Japan, "the Europeans are not prepared to do much today either, other than travel to Syria and Lebanon and relay messages."

Referring to the policy toward Iran and Iraq, Beilin justified the U.S. approach of ostracizing and isolating these countries. On the other hand, he criticized the approach of the European countries, which wrongly

justify their "embrace" of Iran by arguing that "sometimes it is better to embrace somebody than to push him into a corner." According to Beilin, "an assertive policy" toward Iran on the part of the European countries could make a real contribution to peace as far as Israel and its neighboring Arab states are concerned.

The French parliamentarians were slightly embarrassed when Beilin summed up this part of the meeting by saying that he finds it hard to understand French foreign policy, which expresses friendship and fraternity on one hand, but demonstrates very little genuine response on the other.

Replying to a question on the issue, Beilin said he has no doubt whatsoever regarding the positive conclusion of the Gaza-Jericho First phase of the agreement. He added that a permanent comprehensive peace arrangement with Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon could materialize in 1994. Some of the parliamentarians told HA'ARETZ that at this early stage of their visit, "they have already learned to appreciate Israeli democracy, where a peace process is taking place amid tough internal criticism from many sectors of the population."

Clinton Seen Hesitant in North Korea Policy

TA0102124194 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Feb 94 p 9

[Editorial: "A Time Bomb in Asia"]

[Text] President Clinton's greatest success to date has been to avoid getting involved in foreign crises. He did not give in to the pressure of those who advocate an active, global U.S. leadership in the belief that in the absence of clear-cut evidence of its determination, the Washington administration will be ridiculed by both friend and foe. As an opponent of the Vietnam War and one who moved into the center of the political arena in the quarter century since then but is still afraid of the unforeseeable cost of involvement, Clinton is willing to take the criticism and pay the price of doing nothing, on the assumption that the price of doing something is much higher.

This has been his attitude so far in the case of Bosnia and of Haiti, but his ability to tread the same path with North Korea is gradually decreasing. Clinton's behavior vis-a-vis the radical, conservative regime in Pyongyang last year resembled the way the governor of Arkansas would treat Republican legislators in Little Rock: pompous

declarations and threats wrapped in incentives, culminating in a compromise depicted as a success. This system has barely worked with Congress in Washington, where Clinton carried fateful votes with a minuscule albeit decisive majority, but it is not effective when the adversary is a foreign leader who has been ruling his country since toddler Bill Blythe—he changed his name to "Clinton" years later, in honor of his stepfather—was in kindergarten.

Kim Il-song has long strived to attain the nuclear capability that would enable him to threaten South Korea, punch a hole in the U.S. nuclear umbrella protecting it, and promote his goal of military or political reunification of both parts of the Korean peninsula. Thousands of U.S. troops stationed south of the 34th parallel would presumably become hostages in the event of an invasion from the north. Although Washington could respond with a nuclear strike on the north if the south were facing defeat, the north's nuclear weapons directly aimed at thousands of Americans and millions of Seoul residents might force the leaders of the south to make concessions without engaging in combat.

Clinton had hoped to force North Korea to stop striving to attain nuclear capability by subjecting its facilities to international supervision, but he failed. After precious months of evasions by North Korea and the U.S. agreement to put off joint maneuvers with the South Korean Army, North Korea consented to partial—hence useless—supervision. Clinton hesitated for a month before he approved the stationing of Patriot missile batteries in South Korea to protect it from North Korea's surface-to-surface missiles which, as far as is known, are not outfitted with nuclear warheads but might be equipped with chemical ones. In his capacity as troubleshooter, Clinton's concern about causing an escalation through his response made some sense. This logic, however, is two-sided logic (Washington versus Pyongyang), whereas Clinton's problem is much broader: regional (how will the PRC and Japan proceed) and global (how will the message of U.S. feebleness be interpreted).

Hesitancy will not help Clinton. He will ultimately be compelled to use force or lose what is left of his credibility in Tokyo, Beijing, and other capitals at a time when his global nuclear arms control initiative is supposed to be the crowning glory of his foreign and defense policy efforts in 1994 and 1995. The clock in the nuclear time bomb is ticking. If it goes off, it will mean that Clinton was tragically late.

Report Ties Iran, Abu-Nidal To Recent Violence

JN0102183694 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 2 Feb 94
p 4

[Excerpts] The assassination of the Jordanian diplomat in Beirut, Na'ib al-Ma'ayitah, has opened the door wide for speculation. Our sources assert, however, that there is much more to it than meets the eye.

Our information indicates that the martyr was not just an ordinary employee who had specific duties at our embassy in Beirut, and that he had worked there only nine months and not a year as was previously announced. He had performed similar duties at our embassy in Cairo.

Observers in the know link the assassination to domestic and foreign developments that have to do with the peace process and Jordan's strained relations with several radical movements, specifically allied with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Interviewed by AL-BILAD, al-Ma'ayitah's relatives told the paper al-Ma'ayitah had a very sharp mind. He was a man who belonged to his homeland and nation, his brother Najib al-Ma'ayitah said.

This gives an indication, one of the ministers told us, of the nature of the special national tasks performed by the martyr in the Lebanese arena. This is especially true since al-Ma'ayitah's killers stole a very important file the martyr was carrying with him, and not in his briefcase, immediately after the assassination.

Our sources link this file to problems that arose recently between the government and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The sources recall His Majesty King Husayn's remarks a month ago about considering taking official measures regarding diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The sources further say that a Jordanian decision was made last Thursday [27 January] according to which the Iranian side was told to reduce its diplomatic mission in Amman, which has 33 people. Our sources say that the security agencies believe most of them are Iranian security officers.

Active Iranian sources in Amman told AL-BILAD the Jordanian ambassador in Tehran was the target of several attacks by Iranian groups last month. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry, however, chose not to go public about the attacks, although it addressed official memorandums to its Iranian counterpart in this regard.

These sources say that Amman has recently witnessed more activities by extremist groups that previously operated in Syria and Lebanon and visited Iran.

The sources assert that the Jordanian security agencies have arrested and interrogated many members of those groups, and that some of them are still detained, following the explosion that occurred at the Cinema Rivoli in downtown Amman.

The security organs had received word about a small bomb that went off almost a month ago at the same theater. The explosion was followed by private calls explaining that it was a light-caliber message. Jordanian security services kept a tight lid on the second explosion last Wednesday, before locating the detonator. [passage omitted]

Jordanian Foreign Ministry sources say the Ministry has sent a special fact-finding committee to Lebanon to investigate the sinful operation and find out who is behind it.

Security reports began to link the assassination attempt to the group of Abu-Nidal, Sabri al-Banna. Lebanese sources told Jordanian security officers that they suspect al-Banna is involved in the operation. Consequently, our information says, the Jordanian security men left immediately for Lebanon.

Lebanese security agencies currently regard the Abu-Nidal group as the second suspect in the operation, especially since it is rumored that five leaders of the group are jailed in Jordan. Our government denies the five are in Jordan, despite the fact that it has released some of the movement's cadres after being detained for two months.

Our informed sources, however, confirm that the Jordanian agencies have recently received a thank-you note from Abu-Nidal after releasing the movement's sequestered property in Amman, which includes documents, offices, furniture, and other items. The note also demanded that the movement's five leaders be released. The Jordanian Government denies it is holding them.

Security sources do not rule out a possible connection between Abu-Nidal and the operation. The sources, however, think most likely there is a joint operation in which the pro-Iran groups drew on Abu-Nidal's experience, since he has a rich record of involvement in liquidating Jordanian diplomats over the past 10 years. Abu-Nidal is trying to break the tight siege imposed by our security agencies on his activities in Jordan, since he has repeatedly tried to create a main theater of operations in Jordan by contacting figures that cooperated with him to use him as a pressure card against the Palestinian leadership when the negotiating process faces any impasse.

Expressing his movement's domestic crisis in light of the negotiating process, Abu-Nidal issued a statement on 29 November in which he threatened to take action against the interests of Arab regimes. The statement emphasized Jordan, since it is the second party, after the Palestinians, that is directly concerned with the peace process.

The Iranian side, which rejects the negotiating process, has incited its subsidiary Islamic and Palestinian movements, drawing their attention to the serious Jordanian role in this context. This is especially true since Jordan and the PLO have signed an agreement and the fact that the Iranians have lost the Syrian card, which was also lost by the anti-'Arafat Palestinian movements. Those

movements are now looking for an objective and geographical alternative to Syria to express their rejection of the negotiations. [passage omitted]

U.S. Seen Trying To Undermine Internal Stability

JN0102134594 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Feb 94 pp 22, 21

["Highlights" column by Fahd al-Fanik: "U.S. Pressure and the Internal Front"]

[Text] Jordan is being exposed to immense and unprecedented U.S. pressure that is accompanied—openly or implicitly—by economic, political, and security threats. The Americans want Jordan unilaterally to end the economic boycott of Israel, before achieving a peace treaty, while Israel, in its turn, will give nothing in return. They are pressuring Jordan to expeditiously sign a peace treaty with Israel and not to wait for a comprehensive solution on the Palestinian and Syrian tracks. They are also exerting pressure toward holding meetings between Jordan and Israel on the highest levels without any preconditions and before resolving the pending problems or signing a peace treaty just to record achievements for the U.S. Administration in the interest of Israel.

What the Americans are asking from Jordan is neither requested nor expected by Israel itself. They are asking for this without making any concession to Jordan with regard to the blockade imposed on al-'Aqabah, reducing Jordan's debts, or without putting pressure on Israel for the sake of creating a balance. They want us to tighten the blockade on sisterly Iraq, which has implemented the Security Council resolutions, and, at the same time, end the boycott of Israel which has not implemented one single resolution.

If Jordan does not succumb to this American pressure, its punishment will be: the freezing of aid, tightening the siege of al-'Aqabah, protesting the flow of Iraqi oil to Jordan, pressuring the IMF to fabricate an excuse to withhold its adoption of the economic reform program—and consequently not to reduce or reschedule the debts, and also instigating some sides stationed in Jordan to undermine internal stability.

Such pressure was exerted here in Amman by the visiting U.S. delegations such as the secretary of commerce and the Congressmen who visited Jordan recently. Pressure was also exerted in Washington with the ranking Jordanian delegation. In order for such pressures to bear fruit, an atmosphere of instability needs to be created so as to confuse the government and make it feel that it is living in a mine field and that it is fighting on many internal and external fronts, and consequently, the state will lose its stability.

The following are signs of the atmosphere that is being created to subjugate Jordan:

The attempt to torpedo the sales tax law to justify cancellation of the economic reform program and a return of the 1988 crisis which resulted from our debts;

The cinema blast on the pretext that the cinema shows pornographic films, to accuse Islamic sides of the blast and drive a wedge between these sides and the government.

The differences with the PLO and the return of concern, fear, and hegemony attempts.

The assassination of a Jordanian diplomat.

The atmosphere created by the food and medicine bomb hurled—with good intention—by the minister of health at the right time. And more to come.

The factors that will guarantee our steadfastness in the face of pressures are: a cohesive internal front—through carrying out investigations and questioning for the sake of the homeland and reform, and not just to register stands; seeking the participation of all parties and not excluding any force; respect for institutions; popular awakening; and responsible acts.

PLO Envoy Briefs Prime Minister on Davos Talks

JN0202094294 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Feb 94 pp 1, 19

[By 'Isam Qadamani]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received at his office yesterday Palestinian ambassador in Cairo Sa'id Kamal.

The Palestinian ambassador updated the prime minister on the negotiations on the Palestinian track, particularly with regard to the Davos meetings between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

In a statement to reporters after the meeting, Kamal said that the Palestinian leadership has made no concessions during the Davos talks. He added that the Davos talks resulted in a convergence of views on the arrangements pertaining to security and withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

Sa'id Kamal said that the Palestinian and Israeli sides agreed on a two-month withdrawal period, during which negotiations will continue, and a four-month period for the implementation of the agreement. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian ambassador indicated that the implementation of the arrangements pertaining to security and withdrawal is contingent upon the key decision-maker in Israel; that is, the prime minister. Kamal added: Nonetheless, out of a high sense of responsibility, I would like to tell Rabin: Enough is enough. What we have offered in Cairo and Davos should prompt both sides to sign an agreement on the arrangements to be

made. Once this is achieved, the drafting committee can start its work to finalize relevant issues before the start of troop withdrawal.

Kamal went on to say: In the aftermath of the meeting between 'Arafat and Rabin in Cairo, the Israeli rulers have been procrastinating a great deal over implementation. [passage omitted]

In response to a question, Kamal said: We and Jordan are a single body, regardless of the summer clouds that may appear on the horizon. This will remain the case regardless of whether or not certain parties like it.

King Receives Lebanese President's Cable

JN0102174094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received a cable from Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi in which he condemned the criminal action of assassinating martyr Na'ib 'Umran al-Ma'ayitah, the counselor at the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut.

In his cable, President al-Hirawi emphasized that Lebanon condemns violence and is eager to avoid damaging relations between Jordan and sisterly Lebanon or any act against security and stability in Lebanon.

President al-Hirawi told His Majesty King Husayn that the competent Lebanese organizations have embarked on the necessary arrangements and measures concerning the criminal incident, and that these organizations were instructed to coordinate with the concerned Jordanian authorities to identify the perpetrators of this criminal action.

Brown Visit Said To Prompt Change in Boycott Policy

JN0102201494 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 30 Jan 94 p 15

[Text] Doha-QNA—Press reports said yesterday that the Jordanian Government has made an initial decision to abrogate the secondary and tertiary boycott of Israel, and that it is waiting for the Arab League decision on ending the primary boycott.

Quoting official Jordanian sources, newspaper AL-SHARQ said the new official Jordanian move has come following the recent visit to Amman by U.S. Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown, during which he demanded ending the secondary and tertiary boycotts of Israel that restrict U.S. companies' activities in the Middle East.

Compensation Urged for Losses Caused by Sanctions

JN2901104794 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jan 94 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "A Fair Demand"]

[Text] Jordan has the right to receive compensation, as stipulated by the UN Charter, for the economic difficulties and losses it has suffered, and for the adverse effects caused by its commitment to, and implementation of, Security Council Resolution 661 of 1990, regarding the imposition of economic sanctions on Iraq.

Jordan, which emphasized its commitment to the international legitimacy and Security Council resolutions, and which implemented them as part of international law, should not pay a heavy price for such a commitment and for its respect for the international resolutions and UN Charter.

Jordan has suffered a lot. It has endured the results of major developments in the Middle East more than any other party. This has substantially harmed its economy, and its limited capabilities have been overburdened. This situation has obstructed its economic, development, and social plans.

Since Jordan is geographically in a central location, and since it depends on transport, transit, a free market, and the Gulf of Aqaba, and because several projects depend mainly on the Iraqi market, the imposition of an embargo on Iraq, together with Jordan's commitment to implementing Resolution 661, has caused Jordan losses of \$300 million annually. This does not include the losses caused by the siege imposed on al-'Aqabah port; that is to say the inspection and diversion of ships. This situation has adverse effects on Jordanian citizens and Jordanian trade in general.

Jordan's firm commitment to peace in the Middle East, and its efforts to reach a just and comprehensive peace in the region at the same time it is eagerly trying to establish democracy and human rights should urge the international community, represented by the Security Council and the international organization, to support this effort and entrench the concept of justice in applying the resolutions of the international legitimacy and the UN Charter.

The prime minister presented the Security Council's sanctions committee with documents containing facts and figures on Jordan's losses resulting from the implementation of Resolution 661 and its commitment to this resolution. The sanctions committee and the influential states in the international organization should respond to these fair Jordanian demands because we should not be rewarded for our commitment and implementation of the international legitimacy and its resolutions with more losses, pressures, and frustration.

Unknown Palestinian Group Claims Diplomat's Death*NC0202080294 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Text] Beirut, Feb 2 (AFP) - A hitherto unknown Palestinian organisation has claimed responsibility for the killing of a Jordanian diplomat and warned Norway against hosting any more Arab-Israeli peace talks, the pro-Syrian Al-Safir newspaper reported on Wednesday [2 February].

An anonymous caller for the so-called Al-Awja Palestinian organisation told Al-Safir that his group was "opposed to the establishment of peace with the Zionist enemy (Israel)."

"All traitors, wherever they may be, will meet the same fate as the Jordanian diplomat," 'Umran Na'ib al-Ma'ayitah who was shot dead by a gunman outside his Beirut home on Saturday, the caller with a fake Palestinian accent said.

He also "threatened strikes on Norwegian interests in the Middle East if Palestinian-Zionist meetings continue to be held on Norwegian territory," the daily added.

For several months Norway hosted secret talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation which led to the signing in Washington on September 13 of a limited autonomy accord.

Jordan, which is also engaged in peace talks with Israel along with the PLO, Lebanon and Syria, has blamed opponents of the Middle East peace process for Ma'ayitah's killing.

Minister Makes Statement on Cabinet Meeting*NC0102205794 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Feb 94*

[Statement by Information Minister Michel Samahah following a Council of Ministers' meeting in Beirut on 1 February—recorded]

[Excerpt] Summoned by his excellency the prime minister, the Council of Ministers held an extraordinary meeting this afternoon that was attended and chaired by his excellency the president of the Republic.

His excellency the president began the meeting by talking about the continuous efforts to bolster the security situation in the country. He referred to the assassination of the consul of the Hashimite Jordanian Kingdom in Lebanon, denouncing the incident and extending condolences to the Jordanian Kingdom on the death of its consul in Lebanon.

His excellency the president then informed the Council of Ministers that he has summoned the Internal Central Security Council for a meeting tomorrow under his chairmanship at the Presidential Palace to discuss the security situation in the country.

His excellency the president also informed the Council of Ministers that he will lead the Lebanese delegation to the funeral of the president of the Ivory Coast at the beginning of next week at the insistence of the Lebanese community in the Ivory Coast.

The Council of Ministers then discussed the topics on its agenda and approved most of them. [passage omitted]

Dallul on Army's Readiness To Fill Security Vacuum*PM0102173594 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 28 Jan 94 p 3*

[Interview with National Defense Minister Muhsin Dallul by Bisharah Shirbil and 'Ali al-Ruzz in London; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-HAYAH] Those opposed to the regime talk about a contradiction in the official political rhetoric regarding the Army's preparedness. Sometimes you say it is ready to fill the vacuum of Israeli withdrawal and other times you stress that the Syrian presence is a necessity because the Army's preparedness is not complete yet.

[Dallul] I confirm that there is no contradiction. The Syrian Army is in Lebanon at the request of the Council of Ministers. It has made great sacrifices in defense of Lebanon's unity and Arabism. The Syrian presence is a fraternal and helping presence. The Syrian military command has never turned down any request submitted by us, whether regarding positions and posts or with regard to deployment. I consider drawing a comparison in this connection a deviation from patriotism. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] We are not comparing the Syrian presence with the Israeli Army's presence. We are asking about the duality in the rhetoric concerning the [Lebanese] Army's preparedness.

[Dallul] Brother, there is no duality. Who is going to protect our back if we send three brigades to the south? When we entered east Sidon, the Syrians wanted to evacuate the posts in 'Aramun, so we asked them to stay to protect the Army's rear. And when we entered the southern suburb [of Beirut], they set up a big cordon in Beirut to facilitate our job. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] Have all arms been collected in the suburb?

[Dallul] The arms present in the suburb are individual arms for the purpose of defending Hizballah cadres. We have agreed with Hizballah on that for the sake of personal protection. The picture of what Israel did to Hizballah leaders is still in people's mind ('Abbas Musawi's assassination). I believe that what is termed security spots is the right of the resistance. We still avoid entering the camps lest such a step be interpreted in various ways, so how do you expect us to deal with a

resistance party? Do you want me to deny it even escort weapons, when it is engaged in confrontations with Israel?

At any rate, Hizballah does not apply the methods applied by the Army in its operations, and resistance actions are a legitimate right. Our problem with Israel is more a political than a security problem. It has been occupying our territory for 16 years and yet has not solved its security problem. If it withdraws, the problem will end and the Army will take charge of security in the south as a whole. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] Former Hizballah Secretary General Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli said that resistance actions will continue even if peace is achieved.

[Dallul] When Israel withdraws, no arms will exist except [the arms of] legitimacy, and we pledge that.

[AL-HAYAH] You pledge and they pledge. Do you not think that a confrontation may occur between the two pledges?

[Dallul] No confrontation will take place, because Hizballah understands the circumstances. It is today talking within the resistance framework—which is its right. It may turn into a political tendency when peace is established, in order to continue its march. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] If the negotiation stage requires the establishment of a Lebanese-Syrian confederation, would you support that?

[Dallul] It is neither required nor proposed. In its present structure Lebanon is the last state that would embark on an action of that kind among Arab states. What is required is coordination that is in Lebanon's interests. I say in Lebanon's interests, because most of the agreements taking place are in Lebanon's interests. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] Are you prepared to guarantee the oppositionists' security if they return to Lebanon?

[Dallul] We are willing to do that. Yesterday (the day before yesterday) Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri contacted Raymond Iddih and had a long conversation with him.

[AL-HAYAH] And General 'Awn?

[Dallul] There is an agreement stipulating that he should stay abroad for a certain period. When this period ends, there will be no problem. Besides, he is violating the agreement. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] What is your opinion of Lebanese Forces leader Dr. Samir Ja'ja's visit to al-Qardahah?

[Dallul] Excellent. I am one of those who contributed to establishing a dialogue between Syria and the "Forces." The first meeting took place between Brigadier Ghazi

Kan'an and Forces officials in my house in al-Biq'a'. We want national rallying around the national concept: to differ politically over what Lebanon should be, not how to destroy Lebanon.

[AL-HAYAH] It is noted that there is greater involvement by military courts in the arrests taking place.

[Dallul] And how many detainees do you think there are? Not more than 12.

[AL-HAYAH] Political detainees?

[Dallul] There are no political detainees in Lebanon.

[AL-HAYAH] Amnesty International said there is torture.

[Dallul] I challenge it to provide one proof or one name.

Commander Urges Army To Raise Preparedness Level

NC0102180294 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Army Commander General Emile Lahhud has warned that Israel might escalate its aggression on the south because of what he called differences among Israeli officials on withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

In his monthly interview with the AL-JAYSH [Army] magazine, Lahhud called on the Army to raise the level of its preparedness to prevent Israel from using the south and local security incidents to its advantage during peace negotiations.

He stressed that only just and comprehensive solutions can bring about the kind of peace that protects dignity. He remarked that solidarity between Lebanon and Syria is the backbone of domestic stability.

Lahhud added that the Army has recently apprehended all violators in the north and south and that investigations into the Phalangist Party headquarters explosion have reached a serious stage.

Cyprus Minister Signs Communications Accord

NC3101221794 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Excerpts] Cypriot Minister of Communications and Works Adhamos Adhamidhis left Beirut for Larnaca this afternoon after a three-day visit to Lebanon during which he held talks with his Lebanese counterpart Muhammad Ghaziri.

A technical cooperation and coordination accord between the two countries was signed. It aims to promote Lebanese-Cypriot relations in posts and communications and the services linked to them.

Minister Ghaziri announced the formation of a technical committee comprised of Lebanese and Cypriots to draft an agreement on laying an undersea communications

axial fiber cable between the two countries. He added that efforts are under way to extend an undersea cable with a capacity of 8000 axial lines. The first phase will begin with 4000 lines, of which Syria will have 16 percent with the remainder shared equally between Lebanon and Cyprus. [passage omitted]

The Cypriot minister, who also called on Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, said the ongoing negotiations mark the start of important cooperation to develop ties between the two countries. He hoped that the accord will be a prelude to the continuation of good contacts between the two countries.

'Foreign Quarters' Said Behind Basil al-Asad Death

JN0102144694 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 2 Feb 94
p 1

[Exclusive]

[Text] In a story totally different from the official story announced earlier by Damascus about the death of Basil al-Asad, eldest son of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, highly reliable sources have emphasized that Basil was the target of an armed attack on Wednesday, 19 January 1994, during a visit to Beirut.

Following the attack, Basil was moved to a Syrian Hospital in a complete coma. He died on Friday morning after a two-day coma.

The sources emphasized that the killers succeeded in escaping. A joint committee of the Syrian and Lebanese intelligence services is investigating the incident.

The preliminary conclusions of the committee indicate that foreign quarters are behind the sinful assassination.

'Positive Indications' Noted at Peace Talks

JN3101081094 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 31 Jan 94

[Press review]

[Text] Editorializing on the bilateral talks in Washington, TISHRIN says: The Washington talks, being conducted at the level of delegation heads, begin their second week today amid some positive indications. The paper notes, however, that decisive results are still a long way off because the Israeli negotiators have not announced Israel's willingness to withdraw fully from the occupied Arab territories. Withdrawal, the paper asserts, is the key to a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

TISHRIN goes on: Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday acknowledged the importance of peace with Syria. Rabin had been denying this fact since the Oslo agreement.

The paper adds: Developments have proven that there can be no peace in the region without Syria. Syria has over the past two years made tremendous efforts to advance the peace process. It presented a working paper during the sixth round, which to date is the only formal paper for the Washington talks. Syria has repeatedly rescued the U.S. peace initiative from Israel's ploys. The Geneva summit was the apex of Syria's serious endeavor to establish a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in the Middle East.

TISHRIN underlines U.S. President Clinton's praise for Syria's relentless efforts and his adoption of President al-Asad's call for the peace of the brave in the region. Syria did all of this out of its love for, and belief in, peace, and not to convince Israel of its true desire for peace. Israel is the party that should do this.

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN asserts the need for Israel's withdrawal from all of the occupied Arab territories, since this would give the peace process great momentum and expedite the achievement of tangible, decisive progress on the path to the just aspired-for peace. Syria is only demanding its territory and what is its right. Its position is completely in line with UN resolutions, the Madrid conference foundations, and the principles of international law. Israeli occupation, on the other hand, violates resolutions and principles. The aggressor should certainly prove its goodwill.

Under the headline "The Touchstone," AL-THAWRAH says: Despite the optimistic atmosphere that prevailed the world following the Geneva summit and one week after the Washington talks at the level of the heads of delegations, Israel alone has continued to adhere to its methods that obstruct any concrete progress. Israel alone is the source of pessimism about prospects for making concrete progress, by avoiding giving any clear and definite answers to the question of full withdrawal from the Golan and the occupied Arab territories, which is the basis of a just and comprehensive peace.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that maneuvering has continued to be the distinguishing feature of Israel's policy. This is despite the fact that the Geneva summit has convinced the whole world, primarily the United States, of the true Arab desire for a just and comprehensive peace, and despite everything that Syria has done throughout the peace process, including the important Geneva summit, to prove its goodwill and tireless efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace that restores to the Arabs their land and rights and preserves their dignity.

AL-THAWRAH adds: No doubt, Israel was the biggest—not to say the only—loser after the Geneva summit. Israel did not want the Geneva summit to convene in the first place. It wanted the Zionist voice to be the only voice in the ears of the U.S. Administration.

The paper goes on: The Geneva summit has accentuated the need for a just and comprehensive solution in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy. It has also bolstered Syria's key role in the region, especially in the peace process on all of its tracks.

The paper concludes: Amid this climate, the Washington talks are continuing. These talks put the Tel Aviv rulers to the test, as to whether or not they are going to respond to the will of the international community and that of Washington in implementing Security Council resolutions and acknowledging the requirements for a just and comprehensive solution. Based on this touchstone, the international community will be responsible for implementing its legitimacy and putting an end to Israel's rebellion.

Under the headline "The Margin for Israeli Maneuvering," AL-THAWRAH writes in another commentary: The results of the historic Geneva summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton have placed Israel in a

tight spot and face to face with the challenge of peace. Israel has only one option: Either to accept a just, comprehensive peace and respond to its requirements and conditions—enshrined in the resolutions of international legitimacy and stipulating withdrawal from all of the occupied Arab territories and acknowledging the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people—or to reject this peace and bear the consequences for passing up this historic opportunity.

AL-THAWRAH asserts that the world is now convinced that Israel is the party that is creating obstacles to hinder and blow up the peace process and deny this hot, unstable region any peace and stability. This is because Israel's creed and strategy and the reasons for its existence contradict this situation.

The paper concludes: All indications, and the conduct of the Tel Aviv rulers, point to one fact: The Israeli rulers are not in the business of making peace. They are absolutely not interested in making the peace process succeed. Quite the opposite is true.

Importance of Productive Talks Viewed

JN0102102694 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-THAWRAH comments that the Geneva summit showed that the Arabs are determined to pursue a just and comprehensive peace grounded in UN resolutions and the land-for-peace formula, which figured in Clinton's post-summit statement in which he told President Hafiz al-Asad that the United States is committed to a lasting and comprehensive peace. Success or failure of the ongoing bilateral talks in Washington will depend on whether Israel will go along with a comprehensive and just settlement.

The ball is now in the Israeli court and the world is looking to see how far Israeli officials are able to comprehend international developments after the Geneva summit. By reverting to shiftiness and the tactic of separate deals, Israel is thus passing up a valuable chance

to achieve a settlement which it needs even more than the Arabs. A world so impressed by the outcome of the summit of the age and the personality of President Hafiz al-Asad continues to hope that the summit will still be able to push the peace process forward and then achieve the peace of the brave. The world will not tolerate another Israeli attempt to bypass the summit. Meanwhile, the U.S. Administration, which is firmly convinced Syria is seeking true peace, wants Israel to comprehend the new facts of the new stage and to help Washington make a go of the American initiative of the land-for-peace formula. Syria's idea of the land-for-peace formula is for Israel to effect an unconditional withdrawal from the occupied Golan Heights and southern Lebnaon, which is being demanded of the Israeli negotiators in Washington. The Israeli negotiators are not coming up with any better ideas than the ones they put forward in previous sessions. Their arrival in Washington was preceded by the bizarre and unwarranted call for a referendum to decide whether to withdraw from the Golan—a call that runs counter to an international and American support for the right of the region's peoples to a just, comprehensive, and durable peace, the peace of the brave.

In another commentary, AL-THAWRAH writes under the headline "The New Opportunity:" The current round of the Washington talks is an opportunity to relaunch and break the deadlock in the peace process. Whatever the expectations held out for the Washington talks, it is important that they prove more productive than earlier rounds. In which case the optimism that the talks will yield results will have been justified. For this to happen, the Israeli negotiators need to adopt new postures and speak a new language, and stay away from equivocation and trickery. The paper notes that the Geneva summit gave the peace process a chance to succeed. But there is the risk of this chance being lost unless Israel shows seriousness and commits itself publicly and unequivocally to the parameters of a just peace as outlined by the Madrid formula and reiterated at the Geneva summit. Just how serious Israel is will be judged by whether it will state a clear intention to pull out from all the occupied territory and admit that a comprehensive settlement on all fronts without detriment to Arab rights is the only road to peace.

Afghanistan

Peace Efforts Updated; Nationwide Session Slated

LD0202124094 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Political efforts have been increased to end the current conflict in Afghanistan. Our colleague reports from Kabul:

[Unidentified reporter] Simultaneous with the arrival in Kabul of large groups of the neutral jihad commanders and mediators, the head of Jalalabad Jihad Council announced that a nationwide peace session will be held in this city soon. He said: In order to convene such a session, coordination has taken place among all the jihad factions and commanders and the neutral political forces, including Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami [Islamic Unity Party]. They have agreed that a prompt and nationwide measure should be undertaken to resolve the current crisis in Afghanistan.

Head of another peace group, named the Reform Council [Shura-ye Eslahi], announced in Kabul that President Borhanoddin Rabbani and Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar have agreed with his mediation to end the current conflict.

A source affiliated to Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami reiterated his party's neutral stance in the current conflict today, and stressed the need for the intensification of peace efforts to end the war. He described the current war as a conflict which will achieve nothing but the further weakening and reduced credibility of Afghanistan's revolutionary and jihad groups.

These peace efforts are being undertaken at a time when the two main warring sides have reported fresh fighting in the northern region of Afghanistan. Opponents of the government say that thousands of troops loyal to the president have been surrounded in the Nahrain region, northeast of Baghlan Province. On the other hand a source close to the government has said that president's forces have achieved remarkable victory in the ongoing battles of Baghlan, Jowzjan, and Fariab Provinces.

On the military status of the warring factions, an Afghan mojahedin commander said: In recent days the Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] and General Dostam's forces have concentrated their efforts on inflicting blows on the government's vulnerable military centers in the northern region of Afghanistan.

Reports Say Opposition Suffering Losses

LD0102202594 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] After beginning a fight doomed to failure, the Karmal-Dostom militia has suffered great loss of life. According to reports obtained from surgical hospitals, which treat war casualties, 1,000 individuals from Dostom's militia have been injured so far and sent to those

hospitals. The report adds: During the second offensive alone, which took place in the area between Mirorayon and Pacha Pol, as a result of the counteroffensive of the Islamic army and mujaheddin, 300 of them were injured. Reports say that it can be concluded that during the one month of Karmal-Dostom's failure in fighting more than 1,000 people were killed and even more were injured. This number is very large, and it is a fact that enemy's combat morale has been sufficiently crushed.

Military Operations in Sheberghan, Balkh Detailed

LD0102203594 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] In Sheberghan and Mazar-e Sharif, the criminal militia's last command bases were crushed last night and today by the air force of the Islamic army of the country. According to a report by the military correspondent of Bakhtar Information Agency, Sheberghan's airport and command and concentration centers of the communist traitors were bombed by jets of the heroic air force of the country. As a result of the air raids, heavy losses have been inflicted on the criminal militia.

According to another report, air raids were conducted on the enemy's centers in Balkh Province. The report adds: Dehdadi airport, Qala-e Jangi, and other areas of concentration of the atheists and traitors were hit by the air force of the Islamic army of the country. As a result of the destruction of the fighter planes that were at the disposal of the looter militia and their hypocrite colleagues, the country's air space is now completely under the control of the air force of the Islamic army. It is for this reason that the last command and concentration centers of the enemy are being bombarded by the air force and are being eliminated one by one.

Similarly, another report says: last night, the militia, which has sold itself, made another failed military effort in the area of Pacha Pol and mounted a broad offensive against the positions of the Islamic army and mojahedin. Consequently, they confronted the resistance of Islamic forces, and, having suffered heavy losses, they were forced to retreat.

By the same token, the notorious militia of Golboddin-Dostom yesterday mounted an offensive against the positions of the Islamic army in the area of Bagh-e Babor, where as a result of the counter offensive of the Islamic army, 43 of their people were killed and 50 others were injured, and they eventually were forced to retreat. A number of foreign mercenaries are among the dead. The enemy's one tank was set ablaze, and their two posts behind Gozargah electricity station were captured by the brave defenders of Islam.

Government Forces Kill 43 'Rebel Troops' in Kabul

BK0102171394 Hong Kong AFP in English 1648 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 1 (AFP)—Troops loyal to Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani killed 43 rebel troops

and wounded another 300 in clashes in Kabul Tuesday, the state-run Radio Kabul said in a broadcast monitored here.

The militia of Hezb-i-Islami leader Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar suffered 43 dead and 50 injured after attacking state forces and being repulsed, the radio said.

In another engagement with the Uzbek militia of General Abdul Rashid Dostam, allied with Hekmatyar, the pro-Rabbani forces wounded 300 rebels in the Microrayan area of Kabul, the broadcast said.

The radio said the Dostam militia has lost 1,000 men during the month-long fighting, which erupted when the Uzbek warlord launched an offensive on January 1, in cooperation with the Hezb, to oust Rabbani from power.

Meanwhile, Afghan sources in the Pakistani border city of Peshawar said a 100-member mission comprising mujahedin commanders, religious scholars and elders had launched a new initiative to end the bloodshed.

The mediation team, led by commander Jalaluddin Haqqani, left the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad Tuesday for Kabul for talks with the warring sides.

Last month, more than 40 commanders from the Kabul area made two attempts to bring about a ceasefire, but failed to bring Rabbani and Hekmatyar to the negotiating table.

Nine Arab Youths Killed in Fighting Near Kabul
NC0102143394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] Kabul, 1 Feb (MENA)—Nine Arab youths were killed during the fighting that raged yesterday southwest of the Afghan capital Kabul, during which forces loyal to Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani seized one of the positions controlled by Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar in the (?Jowzjan) area.

Mohammad Yunus Kanuni, the political counselor at the Afghan Defense Ministry, told MENA that these youths' identities have not been ascertained yet but interrogation of other prisoners showed that they were Egyptian, Sudanese, and Algerian nationals.

He regretted the fact that the names of those killed are not known so as to inform their families. He said that Hekmatyar's forces took away their passports as soon as they joined and gave them aliases that do not indicate their real identities.

In reply to a question on how these youths had come to the areas of fighting in Afghanistan, Yunus said that a number of service offices that operate under false Islamic names succeeded in enticing these youths to come to Afghanistan under the false pretext of "Islamic jihad."

The Afghan official expressed hope that Muslim youths will understand what the real situation in Afghanistan is before they think of traveling to it under false slogans

that take jihad as their symbol. He added that the service offices treat these groups as mercenaries.

India

Editorial Examines Clinton Remarks on Punjab

BK0102141294 Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Jan 94 p 4

[Editorial: "Big Brother And India"]

[Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton's latest statement on Punjab betray contempt towards this country. This statement of U.S. interference cannot be accepted. The U.S. President, in reply to Congressman Gary A. Condit and 15 other legislators, demanding an active U.S. diplomatic role in Punjab, has assured them that his administration shares their "desire for a peaceful solution that protects Sikh rights" and promised to take up the issue with authorities in New Delhi. There should be no doubt, however, that what is being cleverly camouflaged as defence of human rights is in fact a brazen interference on the part of the Clinton administration in India's internal affairs. Indeed, contrary to a widespread illusion among New Delhi's policy makers that Washington under a Democratic Party president would hold India in a tight embrace, Mr. Clinton has lost no opportunity to bare his fangs at this country. In fact, there has not been a single issue in the past year which has revealed that Mr. Clinton's set-up has the slightest consideration or respect for India's autonomy. Instead what has been flaunted as the administration's fresh "even handed" approach towards the subcontinent has essentially meant a definite anti-India, pro-Pakistan bias in U.S. policy pronouncements. Little wonder then that the U.S. has chosen to treat Pakistani help for terrorists in India as being no worse than the propaganda of human rights violations in India. The tone for such a lop-sided policy was set rather early through the blunt remarks of Mr. John Malott, a senior U.S. official who visited Delhi last May when he sermonised us on improving our human rights record, especially in regard to Kashmir and Punjab. In so doing not only did Washington choose to be blind to the "ground realities" in both these states, where our forces are fighting a proxy war against infiltrators sent by Pakistan, but also totally overlooked the constitutional safeguards our democratic polity and independent judiciary provide for protection of human rights. Mr. Clinton admits "some recent improvements in the Sikhs' situations" but maintains that "abuses still occur." Perhaps he needs to be reminded that even in this country Rodney King episodes do take place. On the question of human rights, India would want Washington to keep in mind that it is fully conscious of its responsibility to defend human and civic rights. It has a human rights commission. These institutions may have to be made more effective. But that is India's concern. The fact that the U.S. has shown little appreciation of India's stand on the issue shows that Mr. Clinton perhaps find the human rights issue a clever means of arm-twisting India into following policies tailored to suit American interests,

especially on the NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty] issue. Curiously, Mr. Clinton wrote a similar letter to Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, head of the pro-terrorism Kashmir-American Council on the same day that he wrote to the Congressmen on Punjab. But while the former statement to a lobbyist was said to be an oversight, his communication to the Congressmen could hardly be so. By replying to the Congressmen referring to the crisis of "Khalistan", Mr. Clinton may have lent credence to a concept which the same Mr. Malott had only last August announced as having no official sanction. The Indian government has done well to react sternly to Mr. Clinton's statement.

Sikhs Protest Clinton Remarks

BK0102095294 Hong Kong AFP in English 0733 GMT
1 Feb 94

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 1 (AFP)—Police fired tear gas and used water cannon here Tuesday to scatter thousands of Sikhs protesting against U.S. President Bill Clinton's remarks on the rights of Sikhs in the Indian state of Punjab.

Steel-helmeted policemen lobbed 12 teargas shells in quick succession after the estimated 10,000 demonstrators threw stones and almost broke through a security cordon in a bid to march on the U.S. embassy.

The Sikhs, chanting slogans and waving placards denouncing Clinton, immediately scattered. A police officer was injured after being hit by a stone.

The demonstration was organised by the Punjab chapter of India's ruling Congress (I) party and the protestors arrived in the capital in buses from the northern state, where a Sikh separatist campaign is on its last legs.

It was the third and the biggest demonstration here since Clinton wrote a letter on December 27 to U.S. Representative Gary Condit saying he wanted a "peaceful solution that protected Sikh rights" in Punjab.

The letter was in reply to a letter seeking U.S. intervention "to end the misery in Khalistan... where over 110,000 Sikhs have been killed by Indian security forces since 1984 and 70,000 Sikhs are languishing in jails without being tried."

Khalistan, or Land of the Pure, is the name given to Punjab, India's only Sikh-majority state, by Sikh militants campaigning for an independent homeland.

"There is a lot of anger in Punjab over Clinton's remarks," said Ram Lubaya Chowdhary, a leader of the Punjab Congress chapter. "Sikh rights are perfectly safe in Punjab," added Gurumukh Singh, a Sikh farmer.

Thousands have died in Punjab since 1983 in the separatist campaign. Indian security forces in the state have been accused of torture and killing suspected militants in cold blood.

Union Workers Demonstrate

BK0102155594 Delhi All India Radio Network in
English 1530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The workers of the Punjab unit of the Congress-I staged a demonstration before the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi today. They were protesting against the recent statement of the U.S. president, Mr. Bill Clinton, on Punjab. A number of legislators and MP's from Punjab participated in the demonstration. The police told our correspondent that tear gas shells were fired and water cannons used to disperse the demonstrators. Later, the demonstrators submitted a memorandum to the embassy officials.

Nine Soldiers, 6 Kashmiris Reportedly Killed

BK0102150694 Islamabad PTV Television Network in
English 1400 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] In occupied Kashmir, mojahedin have intensified their attacks on Indian forces in retaliation to the atrocities committed against Kashmiri people. Mojahedin attacked military installations in Badgam, Srinagar, Anantnag-Islamabad, and Rajauri area killing seven Indian soldiers and wounding several others. In Bijbiara, mojahedin clashed with the rampaging soldiers killing two of them and wounding a number of them. Another report says Indian soldiers during their siege and search operations have martyred six more innocent Kashmiris in Srinagar, Bijbiara, Kupwara, and Pampur.

Delhi Termed 'Hub' of Narcotics Industry

BK0202101494 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in
English 24 Jan 94 p 1

[By Soumya K. Ghosh]

[Text] New Delhi, Jan. 23—After a gap of a few years, Delhi is again becoming the hub of India's flourishing narcotics industry. It is also back on the world map as a major originating centre for heroin export.

Estimates suggest that of the 40 tonnes of heroin produced in this country annually, as much as 25 tonnes of this illicitly produced commodity passes through the Capital.

Anti-drug agencies say that nearly 50 kg of heroin, which is 55 to 60 per cent pure, enters Delhi every day from the neighbouring States of Rajasthan, UP [Uttar Pradesh], and Madhya Pradesh.

It is clear that their tall claims notwithstanding, organisations like the NCB [Narcotics Control Board], DRI [Directorate of Revenue Intelligence], Customs and Directorate of Enforcement have been quite ineffective in restricting the trafficking in drugs.

Adding to the problem is a corrupt and inefficient police system. Together, these factors have combined to make the scale of drug trafficking in Delhi comparable to the other major narcotics capitals of the world, such as, New York, Rome, and Athens.

Delhi first witnessed a narcotics boom in the mid-1980s, when large quantities of heroin were smuggled into the Capital for re-export to the West. The drug was produced in the Golden Crescent countries to India's north-west or the Golden Triangle countries to the east.

But due to stringent enforcement of the draconian Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Act, which prescribed the death penalty for drug trafficking in the case of second-time offenders, there was a marked decline in smuggling to and from Delhi.

But now India itself has become a major producer of heroin, although the bulk is still exported to Western countries. An independent survey conducted recently in Delhi and neighbouring States reveals that the major source of heroin production here is a by-product of legitimate opium cultivation.

The Government allows a certain quantity of opium to be grown legitimately, mainly for medicinal purposes. Clearly, some of this is being misused.

Though the bulk is smuggled out by the farmers growing the opium, there is evidence suggesting pilferage from Central Government godowns. The areas earmarked for clandestine growth of poppy include Mandasaur and Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh; Chittorgarh, Jhalawar, Bhawani Mandi, and Kota in Rajasthan; and Bareilly, Badaun, and Bara Banki in Uttar Pradesh.

The survey includes interaction with and interviews of several small-time traffickers, revenue officers, policemen of various States, private highway bus-drivers and operators, headmen of JJ (slum areas) clusters of north-east Delhi and a large number of addicts who also function as traffickers.

However, the most interesting "pattern" of such dope trafficking is the fact that the white heroin is of high grade of purity. Earlier, i.e., during the mid-80s, the dope used to come from across the border for reexport to U.S. or Europe through mainly foreign couriers. It was generally found that except the heroin coming from Burma and Thailand, the rest contained a lot of impurity. It was for this reason that international dope markets, mainly western Europe, the Pak variety of brown sugar (variety of heroin) was either left unsold or fetched a low price.

The drugs coming from Rajasthan, UP (Uttar Pradesh), and MP (Madhya Pradesh) are indigenously produced. This means that after smuggling out the opium from the cultivation points, it is converted into heroin in small makeshift laboratories. Explaining the system, a senior Revenue official said that the process of conversion, though slightly long-drawn and crude, is very interesting.

Conversions always take place in the night, mainly through making of a morphine base from raw opium, and then processing it to heroin with the help of some precursor chemicals. After smuggling out raw opium, it is generally stored in cool places, mainly near wells or sugarcane fields. Precursor chemicals required for the process include acetic anhydride and lime and potassium

permanganate. The make-shift labs where the conversion takes place usually have a stove, filtering apparatus and charcoal (for purification).

However, the sudden rise in the price of heroin and brown sugar in the streets of Delhi is due to the Government's decision to impose a restriction on the sale and purchase of acetic anhydride, which is one of the most basic chemicals required in the textile industry.

The entire process of conversion takes about four to five hours. The manufacturers, who are mainly poor farmers working for some cartel, keep shifting the make-shift labs and have specific code words as warning signals. It generally needs two persons to prepare the chemicals, while a handful stands guard.

According to available statistics, Delhi has over 2 lakh addicts mainly spread out in north, north-east, and central districts. If 0.25 gm of heroin (that is the minimum for a moderate addict) is required by an addict, as a 'fix' per day, the trafficking of dope is over 50 kg daily. In addition, another 10 percent, i.e., 5 kg, goes for re-export, mainly to the U.S. and Europe.

The costing of heroin depends largely on the purity and quantum of delivery. The standard white heroin, available in the streets of the Walled City or the JJ slums of northeast Delhi, is about 55 to 60 per cent pure. The costing also depends on the conversion ratio of opium. High-grade heroin ratio involves 1 kg heroin from 10 kg opium.

The cost of high-grade heroin in Delhi is around Ra. [rupees] 1 lakh a kg, though there are places in Rajasthan and interior Madhya Pradesh where the same grade can be obtained at Ra. 80,000 per kilo. It is known that the price can vary if the delivery quantity is big. For example, the Chittorgarh and Kota variety has a high demand not only in Delhi but also abroad.

The distribution network of the dope flowing into Delhi is unique. The Muslim cartels, operating from within the Walled City have a different mode of functioning compared to the east UP gangs of north-east Delhi and the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Tribe ganglords spread out in the Nizamuddin-Jalvay Vihar area.

The dope always travels into Delhi by carriers comprising invalids, old women, minor children, lepers and poor people. They generally travel by bus or train. ISBT [interstate bus terminal] and the railway stations are always avoided for security reasons. Anything from Ra. 500 to Ra. 5,000 depending on the quantity the person is carrying, is the commission. In fact, a small advance is made initially. The final payment is made after delivery is made in Delhi. It was also been noticed that such carriers bring in other types of drugs and psychotropic substances.

The trafficking pattern is organised in such a way that each carrier will never carry more than 500 to 750 gm. Each of the traffickers has definite points to "offload the

take". In the Walled City, such offload points are innocuous tea shanty, pan (betel leaf) stalls, dispensaries of "hakims" (physicians) or even shops selling "ittar" (perfume), "surma" (cosmetic for eyebrow) etc. The movement of the dope from one destination to the other is almost instant.

The JJ colonies of north-east Delhi, mainly Seemapuri, Yamuna Pushta, Yamuna Nagar, and Kalyanpuri, are notorious for storing dope consignments. Like the Walled City, here also the cartels work on a community basis. The gang members are generally "poorvis" from eastern Uttar Pradesh and, in several cases, women are noticed actively operating in transporting the consignment from one safe-house to another. The areas which are notorious for storing dope in the Walled City are Ballimaran, Chitli Kabar, the Jama Masjid area and Turkman Gate.

In addition to the regular supply there are at times "specific supplies" to a number of small and cheap hotels in Paharganj, Ram Bagh, Daryaganj, and Ara Kasha Road. These supplies are mostly to foreigners.

Iran

Air Force Commander: Turkish Bombing 'Mistake'

LD0202093694 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2, IRNA—The Iranian Air Force, in complete control and fully vigilant, would not allow any aggression on Iranian territory, said Air Force Commander Brigadier General Mansur Sattari in an interview with the English morning daily TEHRAN TIMES today.

Speaking to the daily, the top Air Force official referred to the last Friday's Turkish air assault on Iranian border areas and noted that the attack was not aimed at Iranian territory as the Islamic Republic forces were in full control of the borders.

"It was by mistake that the Turkish missile landed in Iranian territory and 28 of our citizens were martyred or injured," Sattari said, "No Turkish fighter plane entered Iranian territory.... The Turkish pilots were not experienced or mature enough to avoid the tragedy."

The general also denied reports that the Turkish planes violated Iran's airspace and said that the recent incident occurred because Iran's residential areas were too close to the borders.

Gen. Sattari also stated that the Air Force at the moment was totally freed from its previous intense dependence on the U.S. and that it was not only run by an all-Iranian personnel, but also provided educational services to some of the Islamic countries.

As for the Persian Gulf security, the paper quoted the official as saying "we are not appalled by the presence of

foreign warships in the region, in fact we are fully ready to counter any suspicious move and our warplanes are at all times guarding the country's airspace."

Commenting on the post-war reconstruction of the Air Force, he said that the reconstruction had reached completion. The goal of self-sufficiency, he said, was now within the reach of the Air Force. The Air Force experience in achieving self-sufficiency could serve as a model for other governmental bodies, he said.

Earlier in the day, Sattari visited the Air Force exhibition in which the latest achievements of different divisions within the Air Force were put on display.

Turkish Officials Comment

LD0202095894 Tehran IRNA in English 0914 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Sardasht, W. Azarbaijan Prov. Feb. 2, IRNA—The Turkish delegation headed by the Turkish Foreign Ministry official, Ogur Dugan, visited two villages in 'Qassemrash' region here Tuesday.

The delegation is currently here to meet families of the victims of the last Friday [28 January] air strike of Turkish jet fighters against two Iranian border villages.

While inspecting the villages, Dugan expressed deep regret over the incident and stressed that the attack had been unintentional.

The delegation, arrived in Orumiye, the provincial capital, last Monday, also took photographs of unexploded bombs and rockets fired by the Turkish warplanes. The delegation was accompanied by a number of Turkish military experts.

One of the villagers whose wife had been injured in the incident, argued why the Turkish Government had bombed Iranian border villages and farmers.

In response Dugan said Ankara and Tehran were two friendly countries, adding that Turkey would convince Iran it had no intention to attack the villages.

As a result of the air strike of Turkish warplanes last Friday, nine villagers were killed and 19 others wounded in Qassemrash region.

The delegation has so far visited a number of wounded villagers hospitalized in Orumiye.

Velayati Receives Bulgarian Prime Minister

NC0202080794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Feb 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati met the Bulgarian prime minister in Sofia last night. Lyuben Berov described Velayati's visit to Bulgaria as a turning point for improving and strengthening the bases of bilateral relations. He stressed his government's eagerness to increase commercial exchanges with Iran.

He expressed interest in purchasing gas and oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran and called for greater facilities to broaden commercial relations between Tehran and Sofia.

Stressing the consolidation of mutual friendship and reciprocal trust, Dr. Velayati said that activating the two countries' private sectors, joint investment, and cooperation in free trade zones was very important for upgrading relations.

According to IRNA, the Bulgarian prime minister said he was grateful that President Hashemi-Rafsanjani was safe following yesterday's shooting incident at the mausoleum of the imam, may God be pleased with him.

Security Council Issues Statement on 'Plot'

NC0202072694 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Text] Following the plot by a limited number of counterrevolutionaries on Tuesday who had congregated in one of the streets in Zahedan and intended to create agitation and disturbances, the Secretariat of the Supreme National Security Council issued a statement last night, the text of which is as follows:

A number of elements who—in the course of the measures taken by the security forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the eastern border areas of the country—perceived that they could attain their lost interests congregated in one of the streets in Zahedan. They broke the windows of some residential buildings and damaged some vehicles passing on the streets, including those of the law enforcement forces. In performing their legitimate duties and in order to restore law and order, the law enforcement forces therefore intervened and began dispersing these people and arresting the disruptive elements.

Shooting, 'Ineffective' Plots by 'Enemies' Viewed

NC0202110094 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0445 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The vigilant people know that the enemies of the Islamic revolution have always been apprehensive about the Muslim nation's presence on the scene, especially during the Ten Days of Dawn, the symbol of the greatness and grandeur of Islam and the people of Iran. At various times, they have sought to neutralize or undermine this action.

The incident at the mausoleum of the imam, may God be pleased with him, proved that during the festivities to mark the victory of the Islamic revolution, the powers of

world arrogance and the enemies of the Islamic revolution intend to stage incidents to disrupt the popular activity.

What we witnessed yesterday affirms the vigilance and alertness of the people, who, for the past 15 years, have maintained an active presence on the scene of the defense of the Islamic revolution and on the line of the late imam. The people's slogans following the random shooting at the sacred precincts of the [mausoleum of] the Islamic revolution's founder indicate that the plots of the enemies of Islam and the Islamic revolution are ineffective and constitute a declaration of allegiance to the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Everyone should know, at this critical time for the Islamic revolution and the country's construction, when the enemies' hopes are being turned into despondency, that only vigilance and alertness and knowledgeable action can steer the Islamic revolution toward its lofty goals.

Everyone should know that the powers of world arrogance fear the Ten Days of Dawn and the celebration of the Day of God [Yawm-Allah] on 11 February. The 11 February marches have already perturbed the Islamic revolution's enemies. This year, as in previous years, the people will again display their unified presence at the 11 February marches and reaffirm their unwavering determination to safeguard the revolution's gains—to the chagrin of their enemies.

Papers Cited on 10 Days of Dawn Violence, Saudi Role

NC0202141694 *Paris AFP in English 1304 GMT 2 Feb 94*

[Report by Laurent Maillard]

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2 (AFP)—Several people were injured and others arrested in a rare outburst of sectarian violence in southeast Iran, marring celebrations for the 15th anniversary of the Islamic republic, newspapers said Wednesday.

The protest on Tuesday came the same day as a gunman fired shots during a speech by President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

And the mainly Shiite Muslim country's economic plight also cast a shadow over the anniversary when parliament cut the annual budget.

An angry crowd gathered Tuesday outside the main mosque in Zahedan, one of the few Iranian cities with a Sunni Muslim majority, after rumours spread that a Sunni mosque had been destroyed in Mashhad in north-eastern Iran.

"Counter-revolutionary elements joined the crowd and started throwing stones at the police, breaking shop windows," HAMSHARI newspaper said.

The interior ministry described the violence as a "counter-revolutionary plot" and said public buildings, houses and military vehicles had been attacked.

The security forces arrested demonstrators who wanted to "sow disorder and trouble in Zahedan" at the start of the official ceremonies marking the anniversary of the 1979 revolution which toppled the shah, the ministry said.

No figure was given for the number of demonstrators involved.

"Counter-revolutionary elements gathered in Khayyam Avenue and began ripping down the Iranian flags and smashing the party lights decorating the street for the anniversary of the revolution," the ministry said.

The newspaper KEYHAN reported Tuesday that the armed opposition group the People's Mojahedin [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, MKO] was preparing "terrorist activities" in Sistan va Baluchestan province, of which Zahedan is the main town, "with the backing of Saudi Arabia," which sees itself as the leader of the Sunni branch of Islam.

Also Tuesday, a gunman fired shots as Rafsanjani delivered a speech at the mausoleum of the republic's founder, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. Police arrested a 26-year-old man who said he had only wanted to frighten the crowd.

Rafsanjani, standing 50 meters (yards) away and shielded by an aide, kept his composure and did not interrupt his speech at the shrine in southern Tehran. "There was nothing to worry about," he told Tehran Radio later.

The noise panicked some in the crowd of several thousand who had gathered to celebrate the first of the 10 days which led to the revolution, known here as "Fajr" (dawn).

After the incident the crowd started shouting "Rafsanjani, we support you" and "death to the hypocrites," in reference to the armed opposition. On the economic front, the Iranian parliament adopted an austerity budget for 1994-1995, trimming the government's proposed draft by 12 percent because of low oil revenues.

Parliament lowered the forecast for overall revenues to 17 billion dollars, down from the government's target of 19.2 billion dollars. The budget was cut by 12 percent, from 45.5 billion dollars to 40 billion dollars.

MPs also chopped 20 percent off the revenue forecast from oil exports for the next Iranian year—running from March 21, 1994 to March 20, 1995—from 12.8 billion dollars to 10.15 billion dollars.

The price of a barrel of crude was estimated at 13 dollars, while the government had forecast 14.5 dollars.

Deputies Pass Budget Bill at First Reading

LD0102220994 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The national budget bill for the year 1373 [beginning in March 1994] passed its first reading by the Majles deputies following their approval of the total government revenues.

According to a report by the Central News Unit, the single article of the bill was approved in today's open session of the Majles and in its first reading.

Next year's budget, in terms of revenues and funds provided from other sources, as well as expenditures and costs, is 69,772,752,907,000 rials. The general state budget, in terms of revenues and expenditures, is 32,303,350,987,000 rials.

According to the bill, the general revenue and funds provided from other sources are 30,048,946,179,000 rials, the special income from ministries and state organizations 2,254,404,808,000 rials and the budget for state organization, banks, and state affiliated nonprofit organizations, in terms of income and funds provided from other sources is 45.4539 trillion rials.

According to the approved single article, should there be an increase in the foreign currency oil sale income from \$10.1543 billion to \$11.840 billion, the extra income will be spent on the repayment of the country's foreign currency commitments, and the surplus will be spent on projects indicated in the bill and to cover shortage of credit in development plans.

The spokesman for the Majles commission on plans and budget explained the changes in the budget bill and said: in comparison to the bill presented by the government, the national budget has been decreased by some 10 trillion rials, while the general budget has been decreased by 3.7 trillion rials, and the gross change that must be kept in mind during the second reading is about 2.22 billion rials.

At the beginning of the open Majles session this afternoon, deputy speaker Hasan Rowhani, who was in the seat of the speaker, congratulated the deputies on the anniversary of the return of the Imam Khomeyni to the Islamic motherland on 1 February 1979 and spoke of this day as an unforgettable holy day.

Mr. Hasan Rowhani referred to the various plots by the world arrogant powers in creating confusion among the ever-vigilant people of the country and pointed to the shooting incident this morning at the start of the sacred 10 Days of Dawn ceremonies in the pure shrine of his excellency, the imam.

He said: in a naive illusion and a childish move and by firing several aimless shots into the air, the enemy imagined he could disperse the people and disrupt the festivities marking the 16th spring of freedom.

He emphasized: Such actions will definitely be to the loss of the enemy, and our people will not change their ways

The two countries also agreed to cooperate in seismology, housing, and urban development areas, and to organize short-term courses on urban development.

Cooperation in agriculture, livestock, forests and pasture sectors as well as joint investments in fisheries, food industries, aviation, communications, transport, and exchange of university students and instructors, are among the other topics agreed between the two countries.

Velayati in his two-day visit to Ireland met with President Mary Robinson, Premier Albert Reynolds and ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture and food, defence, the marine, trade and marketing and chairman of foreign affairs committee, Brian Lennihan.

Issues relevant to the developments in the region including the situation in Afghanistan, Central Asia, Caucasasia, Iraq, the Persian Gulf, the Middle East Peace Process, developments in Europe especially in the Balkans, unity of the two Irelands and unity of Europe were discussed during the meetings.

Economic, Finance Minister Meets World Bank Officials

LD3001141594 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 94

[Text] Mohammad-Khan, minister for economic affairs and finance, in a meeting with a delegation from the World Bank, spoke about the significant and fundamental role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region.

Mohammad-Khan said: The main indexes obtained during the first development plan indicate that the country's economy is moving toward an organized and programmed economy—and taking into account the world economic recession, Iran enjoys a relatively good growth.

Referring to the substitution of imports that will reduce future foreign currency requirements, he said: With the increase in domestic production, there will be a fall in the import of petrochemical goods and foods, as well as commodities needed by consumer and intermediate industries while the export of nonoil goods will increase.

Mohammad-Khan also spoke on the policy of privatization and said the government intends to sell factories through auction or limited partnership with individuals interested in investment and management.

The minister for economic affairs and finance also spoke on Iran's important role of creating positive prospects for neighboring countries' economies, as well as creating provisions for transport of goods from Iranian ports.

ABRAR, Other Papers Slated To Join On-Line Network

NC0202154794 Tehran ABRAR in Persian 24 Jan 94 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "ABRAR To Join International Media Network"]

[Text] As a result of efforts by the Ministry of Post, Telegraph, and Telephones, a general information network will be inaugurated in our country during the Ten Days of Dawn (1-10 February) celebrations.

Subscribers to this network will be able to connect to it from anywhere inside the country and from abroad by dialing a number.

Initially, newspaper reports, information on train and flight schedules, and a telephone directory will be entered in the database.

The ABRAR newspaper will soon join this network. An informed source in the Ministry of Post, Telegraph, and Telephones told our correspondent that once this network is operational, subscribers will be able to obtain their required information within seconds.

For example, if a subscriber on the other side of the world requires a particular newspaper, he can contact the network and obtain the required information within seconds.

One of the evening newspapers that is scheduled to join the network will be disseminated simultaneously in Tehran and in a European country. The informed source said most of the Western and some Asian countries have such networks.

As for the costs of subscribing to this network, he said they would be announced later but that they would in any case be low and result in a savings of time.

The network center will be located in the Shahed telecommunications complex, which is at the end of the Kordestan Autobahn.

Technical Information

IRANPAC: This is a general information network being planned for communications among computers and terminals in the country and with other networks in the world. The IRANPAC packet switching network will be capable of providing reliable, precise, effective, and economical connections among the information centers.

Different Transmission Speeds

By using Random Access Memory processes in the network and logical channels, IRANPAC will be capable of a simultaneous two-way exchange of information between two subscribers at different speeds.

How do we gain access to IRANPAC?

The following measures should be taken to gain access to IRANPAC:

Set up a communications line between the network center and the subscriber's DTE [Data Terminal Equipment] to obtain data by the following means:

1. [no subsequent numbers below as published] Private communications: The subscriber is linked through a permanent line to the nearest packet switching network center via the IRANPAC network so that he can be linked to the network without any loss of time whenever he likes. Under this arrangement, the asynchronous DTE speed of his private line can be 300-1,200 bits per second and the synchronous DTE speed can be 4,800-9,600 bits per second.

To gain access by dialing: Under this method, the subscriber uses a preassigned telephone number and calls from any of the ports in the network that are closest to the IRANPAC switching center and offered to the subscribers.

The subscribers can in this manner obtain a Network User Identification so that when they call up the IRANPAC network, their identification is verified; if they are bona fide subscribers, they are connected to the desired address. The speed in this case is 1,300 or 1,200-2,400 bits per second.

Pakistan

Paper Views Visit by U.S. State Department Team

BK0202102494 Islamabad THE NATION in English 2 Feb 94 p 6

[Editorial: "An Arms Package Offer?"]

[Text] A US State Department team is said to be in Islamabad to discuss, what is being termed a 'package deal' on nuclear non-proliferation. If so, it points to two fairly clear conclusions. One, that the device of Pressler Amendment, intended by the US to arm-twist Pakistan into accepting the US diktat on nuclear development, had failed to achieve its goals. And two, that Pakistan's perception of a threat to its security was leading it into an arms race with India. The realisation that two important countries of South Asia were sinking their vital economic resources into highly unproductive channels because of a dangerous dispute over Kashmir, may have obliged the US recently into pressurising Pakistan and India to find a diplomatic solution. The failure of the Secretary-level talks between the two countries must have convinced the US that India though willing to go through the motions of a dialogue, was not really serious in solving the Kashmir issue. And so long as the core of the conflict remained unresolved, no progress on the nuclear option, that Pakistan was unwilling to give up, was possible. And hence the visit of the US team. The reasoning in the State Department could be that India remaining adamant on Kashmir and rattling its sword for a so-called 'limited war', Pakistan would be driven to the wall and could unfreeze its nuclear programme. Working on this

hypotheses the US team could have brought in a 'package' to basically address two problems of an immediate nature. First, to persuade Pakistan not to unfreeze its nuclear programme and secondly, to remedy to some extent the danger that the Pressler Amendment had done to Pakistan's defence capability. That both objectives are interlinked is obvious, but while the first objective can be presumed to be certain, the second is not. The US negotiators, for example, could threaten Pakistan with further damage to its security as a penalty for unfreezing of its nuclear programme. That would obviously be totally counterproductive but it would not be the first time the US did something that achieved the opposite of what was intended.

Having said that, it also needs to be said that unless two parallel lines of action are adopted, the US team's mission is doomed. In the short term, the incentive for an attack on Pakistan will have to be removed from the minds of the Indian leadership. The Indians could be thinking that deprived of conventional arms by the US, Pakistan is now weak enough to be taken out in a short surgical strike. India will have to be disabused of such a notion on the one hand and Pakistan's defence shored up on the other. In the longer term, India will have to be persuaded to give Kashmir to Kashmiris or suffer harsh UN-supported sanctions.

Official Rules Out Diplomatic Ties With Israel

BK3001153694 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 94

[Text] The National Assembly was told today that Pakistan does not recognize Israel and there is no question whatsoever of establishing diplomatic ties with that country. Professor N.D. Khan, the parliamentary secretary for foreign affairs, answering a question by Chaudhary Mohammad Tahir, said that Pakistan is reviewing the situation and development of events in the region and will determine its stand after examining the reaction of Arab countries.

Minister Alleges Sharif Received Aid From Israel

BK3001161694 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 94

[Text] Khalid Ahmad Kharal, the federal minister for information and broadcasting, said that during the rule of the Islamic Democratic Alliance and its mentor and patron, General Zia al-Haq, local bodies were misused for personal aggrandizement of the ruling alliance leaders. He was commenting on the statement by the opposition leader, in which he had criticized the dissolution of local bodies. He said during the 1988 and 1990 elections, the funds for local bodies were used to run the election campaigns of the Muslim League and its allied parties. On both the occasions, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz group used local bodies' funds for personal purposes, which forced the caretaker government to dissolve the local councils before the 1990 elections in order to ensure free and fair elections were conducted.

The information and broadcasting minister said that Mian Nawaz Sharif also received substantial assistance from Israel to destabilize the then government. The assistance was provided in the form of steel scraps through Israeli agents either free or at a nominal price. An Israeli ship named (Jamatul) delivered 27,500 tons of scrap worth 240 million rupees.

Hezb Commander Forms Council To Broker Cease-Fire

BK0202094794 Peshawar *THE FRONTIER POST* in English 2 Feb 94 pp 1,8

[Text] Famous commander of Hezb-e Eslami Jalaluddin Haqqani has taken the initiative to arrange a ceasefire in Afghanistan, reliable source said.

Haqqani has formed a 100-member reconciliation council to achieve his aim. Prominent religious leaders, intellectuals and outstanding commanders have been included in the council. Two representatives each of the three provincial governments of Laghman, Nangathar and Kunar are also included in the council. The 45-member Commanders Shura of Kabul has also nominated two of its commanders to the reconciliation body.

The four major parties of the Afghan fighters are also included in the council which has already opened peace negotiations with the concerned parties. The chief of the council, Commander Haqqani, according to the source had a detailed meeting with Commander Sadiq near Kabul on Tuesday. Commander Sadiq who is representing Harakat-e Enqilab-e Eslami played a key role in the reconciliation bid by the 45-member Commanders Shura last month.

The Afghan prime minister Golboddin Hekmatyar accepted the Commanders Shura call for his resignation while president Rabbani rejected it as under the formula of Commanders Shura he was also supposed to step down as president to elect an interim government.

According to Haqqani sources, the Hezb-e Eslami (Hekmatyar) and Jamiat-e Eslami have asked Haqqani to take initiative for a reconciliation. Jamiat-e Eslami is willing to enter into peace talks with Hezb-e Eslami but not with its war partner Gen. Rashid Dostum. Hezb-e Eslami is not ready to hold negotiations with Jamiat unless president Rabbani resigns his office.

Meanwhile, the governor of Nangathar, Commander Qadeer, has proposed a grand gathering of the commanders, ulama and the representatives of all the Afghan parties to be held at Jalalabad, as soon as possible. According to the Afghan source, Governor Qadeer made this proposal while addressing a big gathering of prominent Afghan figures including religious leaders and commanders at Jalalabad on Tuesday.

Qadeer said he would support all those moves aimed at to arrange a ceasefire in Kabul and other parts of

Afghanistan. He said he was in touch with the leaders of the warring parties in Afghanistan for a peaceful settlement in his country.

The sources close to another prominent Afghan leader, Prof. Abdol Rab Rasool Sayyaf, said in Peshawar on Tuesday that Sayyaf had asked President Rabbani and Prime Minister Hekmatyar to remove the communist elements from their ranks. Sayyaf is helping Rabbani in the ongoing Kabul war against Hekmatyar. One of the famous commanders of Sayyaf's party, Ittehad-e Eslami, Taj Mohammad is defending presidential palace at the first defence line at Pule Mehmood Khan in Kabul with his over 1800 fighters.

Meanwhile, the supply of foods and other essential goods from Peshawar to Kabul is continued. A Soviet-made transport plane landed at the Peshawar airport on Tuesday. Another transport plane carrying the relief goods from Saudi Arabia took off from Peshawar airport on Monday, the official sources said.

Bhutto Addresses UN Human Rights Commission

LD0102181394 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Feb 94

[Text] The prime minister, Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, has urged the community of nations to uphold the universal declaration of human rights and to act to stop the massacre going on in occupied Kashmir.

Addressing the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva today, she described the gross human rights violations against innocent and unarmed Kashmiris as reminiscent of the darkest days of the Nazi Germany. She said the situation there is intolerable. The people of held Kashmir are demanding just their freedom. They cannot be suppressed indefinitely. She pointed out that despite its repression, India has failed to impose its will on the indomitable people of Jammu and Kashmir, and intensity of their resistance has grown. The Kashmiri political leadership, representing over (730) parties and groups, has unanimously declared not to contemplate any solution involving the continuation of Indian rule.

The prime minister's address was warmly and repeatedly applauded by the audience.

Referring to the recently held Pak-India talks, the prime minister said Pakistan had hoped to meaningfully address all aspects of the dispute. Pakistan stressed upon India to seek a peaceful rather than a military solution to the Kashmir dispute, and take visible steps to reduce repression. Instead the repression increased. Over 40,000 Kashmiri men, women, and children have been killed so far.

The prime minister demanded that the representatives of Kashmiri people should be allowed to come and inform the commission of the repression to which they are being subjected, and the commission should investigate these violations of human rights. Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto said: It is time for the world community to

prevail upon India to remove its additional forces from held Kashmir, in order to put an end to its repression. It is also time for the world community to force India to free the imprisoned Kashmiri leaders, lift the Draconian emergency laws and stop its army to commit all forms of atrocities in Kashmir, and, finally, allow international human rights organizations, humanitarian organizations, and media men to visit Kashmir to ascertain the facts and provide help to the suffering Kashmiris.

She said the settlement of the Kashmir dispute based on the wishes of the people is the key to peace and progress in South Asia, reiterating that Pakistan is committed to seeking a peaceful solution of the Kashmir dispute, as it would pave the way to normalization of relations between Pakistan and India. [sentence as heard]

The prime minister also urged the world community to help preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and demanded that the consequences of ethnic cleansing must be reversed. She said the genocide in Bosnia has been continuing for the past two years. The Security Council has failed to help the victims of aggression. Humanitarian help has become an excuse to avoid collective action against the aggressor. The European Community approved high sounding principles but failed to stop the aggressor. This state of affairs should end in order to ensure peace, freedom, and justice for the Bosnian people.

The prime minister said Pakistan's aim is to provide a life of dignity to its people by banishing poverty and illiteracy, ensuring the rights of women and their full participation in society, providing full protection to our children and safeguarding the basic rights of minorities.

Later, addressing a news conference, the prime minister urged India to reduce its level of repression in occupied Kashmir. This would be a visible signal from New Delhi that it is sincere in holding talks over the Kashmiri dispute.

Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto said Pakistan cannot afford to ignore what is happening in held Kashmir, because it is our common responsibility to ensure that the Kashmiris get the right of self determination.

Talks With China for Submarine Purchases 'Put Off'

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[Text] Islamabad—The arrival of Chinese team for negotiations with Pakistani officials and experts for the sale of three S-20, diesel-electric powered submarines, has been put off for two weeks.

The Chinese team, which will also include officials of the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC)—the manufacturer of S-20 submarine—was earlier scheduled to arrive here by January 31 for detailed negotiations on the possibility of selling out three units of S-20 to Pakistan.

Official sources told 'The News' on Thursday: "Now the Chinese team will reach here towards the end of first half of February."

The CSSC is offering its on-trial newly-designed S-20 submarines to Pakistan. The cost of three units will be nearly \$40 million US dollars.

Meanwhile, week-long talks with Swedish team for T-96 have already been completed and detailed negotiations with the visiting French team are currently under way for Agosta 90B submarine which is an ungraded but non-nuclear version of Agosta being manufactured by DCN-I of France.

Official sources confirmed that talks for the purchase of submarines are being held only with three countries, France, Sweden and China. These sources say that "though possibility of negotiations with any other country cannot be totally ruled out, at present Pakistan has not invited any other country, except these three, for negotiations on the particular subject."

Defence sources told 'The News' that Pakistan wants to sign the contract for the purchase of three submarines as early as possible once the on-going process of pre-contract negotiations with these three countries are completed.